

REACH FOR THE READING STARS!

McGinn Summer Book Challenge

Dear McGinn Students & Parents,

Obviously, this year has been vastly different from the customary school year. But since we started to navigate At-Home Learning in mid-March, this much has been clear about McGinn students: They love their books, and they love to read. Even as we were separated from the school and library, students found a way to engage with books and pushed themselves to sharpen their fluency and comprehension skills. As important, they showed a passion for engaging in a book and placing themselves in the story.

More than 5,000 books were checked out when we embarked on the At-Home Learning process, and when I saw the excitement in the students' faces as they selected their books before we left school, it provided a heart-warming feeling. In the months prior, from September to mid-March, the students continually impressed through their reading habits, and how their dedication to reading helped shape them as learners. We know the following:

- McGinn students have shown they are versatile in their book selections. It's been a pleasure watching our students check out mystery, fantasy and humor from our fiction shelves, along with a ton of nonfiction books and biographies.
- McGinn students have expanded their vocabularies and enhanced their fluency.
- McGinn students have done a great job passing along recommendations to their classmates, which is a terrific way to generate interest in specific series or genres.
- McGinn students have become better writers. Their creativity has bloomed and their ability to put words on paper has been helped by their reading experiences.



There's no doubt we'll do just as well next year, and probably better. But before we get to next school year, McGinn students can use the summer to continue improving their reading skills. As a result, we're going to hold the ***Reach for the Reading Stars Summer Challenge***. Students are challenged to read as much as they can during the summer break, with the total number of books announced when we return to school.

Students who read the most books will be inducted into the McGinn Summer Reading Hall of Fame, will have their names placed in a special place outside of the library and receive a small prize. Depending on the number of books students read, they will earn recognition in a specific category, this year using a Mission to Mars theme.

Astronaut in Training: The future is bright, and you are destined for great reading success (4-6 books).

On the Launchpad: You are on the verge of a special mission with books (7-10 books).

Visit the International Space Station: You read with students from all over the world (11-14 books).

Moon Landing: One small step for man, one great book for mankind (15-19 books).

Mission to Mars: Upon landing, you share some of your favorite titles with Mars' Martians (20+ books).

Taking part in the challenge is easy. Use the attached reading log to record the books you have read during the summer and turn it in to Mr. Lohn at the beginning of next school year. The books chosen should be "Just Right" books and fit your reading level. Have fun with the challenge and enjoy all those books this summer.

Mr. Lohn
Media Specialist

