Dear Families of Upcoming Third Graders,

Welcome to the 3rd Grade!!! In third grade, your child will take some huge strides with their learning in many areas. Strong reading skills are crucial to everything that your student will learn this next year and beyond. Make a love of reading your most important educational goal for your children. Children who love to read will excel in many areas, not just academics. Here are some ideas to keep in mind as you begin to encourage your child to read more:

• Listen to a book being read aloud.

• Take turns reading to a friend or parent.

• Read the book by yourself and tell someone about your favorite parts.

• Make a list of the books you have read. Use a code to indicate how you felt about each book.

• Visit the library and explore the section with information books. Select those that interest you.

• Record yourself reading the book or parts of the book a second time. Listen to your recording.

To know if a book is "just right" for your child, try the "5 Finger Test". Have your child open a book to the middle. Have them read one page. If they get to a word that they don't know, hold up one finger. At the end of the page, see how many fingers your child is holding up. Explain that this can tell you if a book is "just right":

• 0 fingers – book is too easy
• 1-5 fingers – book is "just right"
• More than 5 fingers – book is a challenge book

I have attached a recommended summer reading list. Becoming a confident and fluent reader, like getting in shape or learning a new sport, requires daily practice. Without daily practice, kids can regress by a month or more, which can result in them starting the new school year scrambling to catch up. A good rule of thumb for summer reading: you should read at a minimum ten minutes per day for each grade level they have completed. Your student should be reading a minimum of 20 minutes a day. Every time your child reads 20 minutes a day, please have them fill in the summer reading log attached to this letter. Please encourage your child to read, read, and then read some more this summer! I am looking forward to developing a partnership with you in Christ as we begin this next year together! Have a blessed summer!

God Bless,

Mrs. Daetwyler & Mrs. Flowers

3rd Grade Summer Reading This listing of books offers book titles that are popular with boys and girls who are entering third grade. This list is a good place to start your summer reading, but it is only a place to start. You may find other books by these authors and enjoy those books, too. Knowing how to choose a good book is part of being a good reader. Have fun choosing and reading books this summer.

Mouse and the Motorcycle Cleary, Beverly

Henry and Mudge (series) Rylant, Cynthia

Mr. Popper's Penguins Atwater, Richard

Shiloh Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

The Relatives Came Rylant, Cynthia

Jumanji Van Allsburg, Chris

The Magic Treehouse (series) Osbore, Mary Pope

Junie B. Jones (series) Park, Barbara

How to Eat Fried Worms Rockwell, Thomas

Nate the Great (series) Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman

Stuart Little White, E.B.

The Puppy Place (series) Miles, Ellen

Amelia Bedelia (series) Parrish, Peggy

Fly Guy (series) Arnold, Tedd

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs Scieszka, Jon

Diary of a Wimpy Kid (series) Kinney, Jeff

Rainbow Magic Series Meadows, Daisy

I Survived (series) Tarshis, Lauren

*A great daily devotional for your child is **Jesus Calling** by Sarah Young.