



Dear Parents,

Reading is one of the most important skills there is. Indeed, it is the foundation of almost all future learning for your child at Hilldale School and beyond. Families who encourage daily reading and writing will have more successful children. Your support at home is essential!

In the pre-Kindergarten time period, this means going together to the library to “discover” fun books; reading at least one or two books to your child every day; expressing true excitement about reading through your positive attitudes and voice intonation; questioning about what you and your child have read and about what your child can see in the book’s pictures; and encouraging your child to “try out” reading by noting the letters and sounds that are found on the printed page. Please help to make reading a priority during the coming summer months.

Each year, we will provide a list of one required book and other suggested choices. For the incoming Kindergarteners, we would like everyone to have read to them *as many times as possible* with attention to the sounds and pictures the following book(s):

Required:	The Cat in the Hat	Dr. Seuss
Recommended:	Ready to Read (Get Set for Kindergarten)	Rosemary Wells

As you read, please point alternately to the words and the pictures, and emphasize the beginning letter sounds as you read. If your child is ready to begin to read words, please encourage him or her to do so!

Other than these two books, at this point it is not important what books your child is hearing read, as long as he or she *is* hearing and enjoying the reading process. So choose whatever strikes your fancy, and enjoy a great summer of reading together!

Have a wonderful summer!

Ms. Sanchez
Mrs. Voloshin
Mrs. Burleson
Kindergarten Teachers

Ms. Clayton
Principal