Summer reading? Yes!

Reading over vacation helps retain skills, knowledge

Just because you are on summer vacation doesn’t mean reading should stop. It goes without saying that it is important to read on a daily basis to improve comprehension and fluency skills. Reading exercises your brain, improves your concentration, and helps you learn about the world.

Reading doesn’t have to be from just a printed book. You can read online using your phone, tablet, ipad, ebook, or laptop. Be wary, though. Online reading has its pros and cons. For example, reading online can cause eye strain due to the blue light. A solution is to wear blue light filter glasses, or turn on the blue light filter on your device. Reading on a hard copy makes it easy to go back and find a specific section or quote.
from the book. Also, when you read a printed book, you do not need to worry about wearing special glasses or turning on a filter on your device.

Unsure of what to read this summer? Here are recommendations, including award winners, as well as favorite books of some current Student Council members.

**Grades K-2**
- Watercress by Andrea Wang, illustrated by Jason Chin (2022 Caldecott Winner, 2022 Newbery Honor Book)
- Mel Fell by Corey R. Tabor (2022 Caldecott Honor Book)
- Have You Ever Seen a Flower? by Shawn Harris (2022 Caldecott Honor Book)
- Wonder Walkers by Micha Archer (2022 Caldecott Honor Book)
- The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster! By Mo Willems

**Grades 3-6**
- The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera (2022 Newbery Award Winner)
- Red, White, and Whole by Rajani LaRocca (2022 Newbery Honor Book)
- Too Bright to See by Kyle Lukoff (2022 Newbery Honor Book)
- A Snake Falls to Earth by Darcie Little Badger (2022 Newbery Honor Book)
- Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Floyd Cooper (2022 Coretta Scott King Book Award, 2022 Caldecott Honor Book)
- Big Shot by Jeff Kinney (Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Book 16)

---

**Student Council Members’ Favorite Titles**

**Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief**

Author: Rick Riordan
Publisher: Disney Hyperion
Copyright: June 14, 2005
Genre: Fantasy
Synopsis: Percy Jackson is a boy with dyslexia and ADHD. He has been kicked out of boarding school his whole life. He is accused of stealing Zeus’s lightning bolt. Being falsely accused, he is sent to a special school called Camp Half Blood. On his way there, his mother is taken by Hades. Now he has a choice: save his mother or clear his name. I like this book because it is filled with thrilling action, adventure, and mystery.

– Zachary Paredes
The Art of Racing in the Rain

Author: Garth Stein  
Publisher: HarperCollins  
Copyright date: 2008  
Genre: Fiction/Young Adult  
Synopsis: The novel “Art Of Racing in the Rain” follows the perspective of a golden retriever named Enzo who tells the story of Denny Swift and his family. Denny is a professional Formula One race car driver. Besides his passion, he has three loves: his wife, his daughter, and his four-legged best friend, Enzo. Enzo believes that “when a dog is finished living his lifetimes as a dog, his next incarnation will be as a man” (The Art of Racing in the Rain).

– Alex Raszkiewicz

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

Author: Kate DiCamillo  
Publisher: Candlewick Press  
Copyright: 2009  
Genre: Fantasy  
Synopsis: This book is about a rabbit doll named Edward, who goes through many different owners. Edward starts off with a child as his owner. But when she loses Edward, he ends up with a different owner. This happens several times and, with that experience, Edward learns what it means to love somebody and be loved in return. To be honest, this book is a bit melancholy because Edward loses so many people that he loved. However, at the end of the story, he learns an important lesson, and that is what matters most.

– Emily Belfiore
Prisoner B-3087

Author: Alan Gratz
Publisher: Scholastic Press
Copyright: 2013
Genre: Historical fiction
Synopsis: Prisoner B-3087 is based on the true story of Yanek Gruener, a young Jewish boy who is 10 years old when the Nazis invade his home city of Krakow, Poland, in September 1939. Yanek, his parents Oskar and Mina, and the rest of his family, who are all Jewish, are immediately subjected to restrictions on their freedoms. www.litcharts.com.

– Karly Cservak

The Book Thief

Author: Markus Zusak
Publisher: Random House Children’s Books
Copyright: 2007
Genre: Historical fiction
Synopsis: No one has the perfect family. But how many people have watched their brother die in their arms at a young age, and because of the trip they were taking originally, they have to keep moving and aren’t able to have a proper funeral?

– Eleanor Huang
Cloud and Wallfish

Author: Anne Nesbet
Publisher: Candlewick Press
Genre: Historical Fiction
Copyright: 2016
Pages: 393
Synopsis: It’s 1989 in Virginia, and when 11-year-old Noah Keller gets pulled out of school in an unfamiliar car, he quickly learns that he has a completely different identity. Noah’s actual name is actually Jonah Brown, and he is still 10. He also learns that he and his family are going on a special trip to East Berlin, in Germany. He quickly meets a friendly girl named Cloud-Claudia, and they have a strong friendship. Cloud’s parents are said to be dead, but Noah discovers otherwise. Jonah’s family is kept safe by “The Rules,” which are 10 rules to not attract attention or seem suspicious. However, in the end, things for Jonah and Cloud-Claudia take a turn. If you enjoy reading historical fiction, this thrilling page-turner book is a must!

– Grace Shrestha

The Westing Game

Author: Ellen Raskin
Publisher: E.P. Duttin
Copyright: 1978
Genre: Mystery
Synopsis: “The Westing Game” is an award-winning mystery where 16 heirs of Sam Westing’s fortune meet at Sunset Towers apartment buildings. They are organized into pairs and are told to save a puzzle with an award of Sam Westing’s fortune.

– Amaya Siddique
Drop the phone and get outside this summer

By Amaya Siddique and Delilah Antonini

Summer is almost here, and you need to do something that is not on your phone! Here are some fun and safe things to do in the summertime:

- Go to Bowdoin Park - it is a local, child-friendly environment.
- Go to Splashdown Beach or go to a swimming pool to stay cool.
- Take a hike along the Rail Trail or up Mount Beacon.
- Hop in your car with your friends or family for a nice trip to the Bronx Zoo.
- Read a book or write a story in the shade.
- Babysit, if your old enough.

While having fun, you have to remember to stay safe. Here are some tips for doing that:

- Stay hydrated by drinking lots of liquids.
- Remember to put on a safe amount of sunscreen before going outside.
- Make sure you’re supervised by an adult before jumping into a pool.
- Make sure an adult knows where you are at all times.
Face to Face: Orchestra or Band?

By Eleanor Huang and Alex Raszkiewicz

Which is better? Orchestra or Band? Some people might even think that they’re the same but there are actually many differences. Here are some of the attributes specific to orchestra and specific to band:

Orchestra

In the orchestra, just because there are four instruments as of elementary or middle school, that doesn’t mean it is any less than band. In fact, many agree that it is better than band for a lot of reasons. For instance, “People like orchestra better because band plays way too loud and like an air but as of orchestra we play soft and even if we do play loud the music just has a calming vibe,” according to Sofia Hardin (https://prezi.com/p/jgteaqrmy1dp/why-orchestra-is-better-than-band/, Oct. 28, 2018).

Orchestras can have a more varying level of sounds, loud or soft than band. Many times band seems to play very loud which can make others dislike it as it can be quite deafening. Musicians can play beautifully together and can play loud or soft, high or low, and play all different types of music. Orchestra is divided into sections within itself like the violinists, violists, cellists, and basists. Each of these instruments also sound good by themselves.

❖ String Instruments
  ➢ Violin (A high-sounding instrument; typically the smallest)
  ➢ Viola (A less high instrument; a good middle pitch, )
  ➢ Cello (A bit lower than the others, but also a good middle pitch)
  ➢ Double Bass (A very low-sounding instrument; also the largest)
❖ Clefs
  ➢ Treble Clef
  ➢ Bass Clef
  ➢ Alto Clef
❖ You play your instrument with a bow by moving it on the strings, plucking the strings (pizzicato), and pressing down notes on different parts of the strings to make different notes.
❖ Increases Academic Skills
➢ It has been researched, and areas like math have improved when you are involved with music.
➢ Also, according to the article, “Benefits of Playing a Musical Instrument” posted on Youth Orchestras Fresno, “Students participating in music do better on standardized tests — including the SAT — than students not involved in music.”

Music played in orchestra can have more beautiful variability; it is often more intricate and therefore sounds better. Plus, there can be many instruments in orchestra. Sometimes band and orchestra will combine in professional concerts. Some songs may sound better with band, but many still think orchestra is better, and I must agree.

Band

Alex Raszkiewicz

Every instrument has a unique characteristic in sounds, parts, and notes. Have you ever wondered why every instrument sounds so different? According to the article Why Do Instruments Sound Different, “The reason the same musical note sounds different when played on various instruments is because the harmonic overtones and envelope of each instrument is unique. When a frequency is played, other frequencies, called harmonics, are created.”

Band instruments are divided into groups based on their sound and how they are played.

Woodwind - Soft, smoothing, blowing instrument, consisting of mostly wood, plastic, or metal.

Brass - Buzzing your mouth on a metal mouthpiece to make a sound. Consisting mostly of copper and zinc.

Percussion - Beating or striking a musical instrument to make a sound. Mostly consisting of wood, plastic, or metal.

Below is each group of instruments in a typical school band:

❖ Brass
  ➢ Trumpet
  ➢ Cornet
  ➢ Tuba
  ➢ Horn
  ➢ Trombone
  ➢ Saxophone

❖ Woodwind
  ➢ Flute
People in a band often say that music played from a band is easy to remember, plainer, and often representative. According to the article *Which Is Harder Band Or Orchestra*, “in a marching band, several players play the same music line, and the overall sound is very loud, so mistakes are not nearly as obvious as in an orchestra.”

**Which is Harder to Play?**

Have ever wondered “Which instrument is harder to play?” According to the article *Which Is Harder Band Or Orchestra*, “orchestral music is more complex, and the fewer wind and percussion players are more exposed than in a band.” This doesn’t mean every band instrument is easy to play. Take the oboe for instance; it is often “counter-intuitive, has issues with reeds, and the lack of experienced teachers and materials for the instrument,” according to the blog *Why Is the Oboe Hard to Play?* by Danny Cruz. So who will thrive? It still depends on the person and the instrument that is best for them.

**Overall**

After seeing the different components of orchestra and band, what do you think? Participating in an orchestra or a band is a great experience; you get to work on teamwork as you and others play together, and you are able to play music. As you can see, orchestra and band are wonderful, although there are components unique to both. Overall, both are great instrumental groups you can be a part of, which is why the decision and side of the argument still rests with you: orchestra or band? Which one will you join?
INTERVIEW WITH ...  

Mrs. Turpin-O  
Physical Education Teacher

1. Why did you become a teacher?
I became a teacher because I had a great PE teacher in elementary school and I wanted to be just like her. I ended up student teaching with her in college. I love seeing the children having fun while learning the fundamentals of life. Every day my students bring a smile to my face. I strive to make a difference in the lives of my students.

2. What is your favorite subject to teach? Why?
My favorite PE activity to teach would have to be gymnastics. I like teaching because there are so many different things you can teach in the gymnastics unit. I used to coach at Diamond Gymnastics, and was the head coach of Roy C. Ketcham High School gymnastics team. I even judged gymnastics for a few years.

3. What was your favorite subject in school? Why?
My favorite subject would have to be Physical Education because I loved all the games we used to play in class, from relay races, to dodgeball, to soccer, and field day events.

4. How do you motivate your students?
I motivate my students by giving them positive encouragement to assist them to accomplish their goals. Recently I have been motivating my students by showing them previous records in fitness testing scores which has helped motivate students to strive to do their best to get their name on the record board.

5. What is your hidden talent?
I would have to say my hidden talent is that I can still perform some gymnastics skills since I was a Level 9 collegiate scholarship gymnast.

Interview by Grace Shrestha
### Trait of the Month

The Trait of the Month for June is **Courage**. Courage is when you are brave enough to do something someone else wouldn’t. This doesn’t mean to bully someone and be a cruel, prideful person. Instead, this means standing up for someone or something. Courage is also when you are brave enough to admit your mistakes. Admitting that you did something or telling the truth.

– Grace Shrestha

### Upcoming Events

- **Grade 6 Moving Up** is June 17.
- School is closed June 20 in observance of **Juneteenth**.
- **Kindergarten Wave Goodbye** is June 22 at 9:00 a.m.
- **Sing Along** is June 23, the last day of school for students.

### Did You Know?

The human brain is getting smaller. In fact, it has shrunk by about 17.5 percent during the last 20,000 years, according to scientists. This is likely related to the fact that our bodies are about 10 percent smaller than they were over that period of time.

– Michael Busby

### Trivia Question

What is a group of lions called?

**Answer to last month’s question:** It would take a typical hiker five to seven months to hike across the entire Appalachian Trail.

### Must-Click Site of the Month

With summer just around the corner, students might be looking for web-based activities to keep their skills sharp. [Funbrain.com](http://Funbrain.com) has been educating students since 1997. The site features hundreds of learning games and interactives for pre-K to grade 8 students.
## Students of the Month ~ June 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Mrs. Leveque</td>
<td>Oliver Wright, Julianna Barnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Mrs. Kirsch</td>
<td>Jackson Enea, Anya Azim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Ms. Vilardi</td>
<td>Mia Mercedes, Jeymil Hilario-Salcedo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC 1/2</td>
<td>Mrs. LaSalvia</td>
<td>Gianna Ljuldjuraj, Benjamin Gordineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mrs. Greene</td>
<td>Jameson Berger, Chloe Haas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mrs. Berwick</td>
<td>Nyahri DeSouza, Lorenzo Lopardo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ms. Tyburski</td>
<td>Seth Campbell, Arisleydis Valerio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Merritt</td>
<td>Caitlyn Piazza, John Mourges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mrs. Wilson</td>
<td>Kayden McKenzie, Michaela Varella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Murray</td>
<td>Avery Cilley, Luca Sorvillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC 3/4</td>
<td>Mrs. DiPalma</td>
<td>Jonah Simmons, Ethan Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mrs. Manee</td>
<td>Kyleen Jordan, Jahdane Desouza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mrs. Zmudosky</td>
<td>Christopher Burton, Cristain Cuadrado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ms. Segarra</td>
<td>Marley Strype, Camila Matute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ms. Marino</td>
<td>Xavier Kowaliw, Kelli Venditto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mrs. Walker</td>
<td>Kaylee Williams, Enrique DeJesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC 5/6</td>
<td>Mrs. Kearney</td>
<td>Brogan Harkins, Anthony DiRende</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mrs. Dease</td>
<td>Noah Haas, Kylie Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ms. Hickey</td>
<td>Madison Treybick, Liam Virgo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ms. Halliday</td>
<td>Anthony Marquez, Morgan Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ms. McCabe</td>
<td>Emily Belifore, Brandon Luciani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mr. Lander</td>
<td>Garrett Traver, Robert Gargano Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mrs. Roe</td>
<td>Jackson James, Lamya Dabashi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Council Members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delilah Antonini</td>
<td>Zachary Paredes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Belfiore</td>
<td>Alex Raszkiewicz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Busby</td>
<td>Shane Riley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karly Cservak</td>
<td>Joshua Rodriguez-Allen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliana Haimowitz</td>
<td>Grace Shrestha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Huang</td>
<td>Amaya Siddique</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WAPPINGERS
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Empower Challenge Grow

Oak Grove Elementary School
ANGELINA ALVAREZ-ROONEY • PRINCIPAL
40 Kerr Road • Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 • (845) 298-5280 • Fax (845) 298-5270