

5th Grade Summer Reading!

Dear future 5th grade families and students,

May 2026

Students entering fifth grade have a summer reading assignment they need to complete before returning back to school in the fall. The name of the book for this assignment is Shine! by JJ and Chris Grabenstein. Students have received a school copy of this book. Please take care of the books so that they can be enjoyed by students for years to come! While reading, students need to do each of the following as their summer reading project. It is broken into three parts:

- 1) **Notes:** At least **three brief bulleted notes/important events on each chapter (54 chapters total), clearly labeled and organized by chapter.**
- 2) **Main Characters:** A list of the main characters with brief descriptions of each one.
- 3) **Vocabulary List:** Students should also create a **Vocabulary List** made of words that they found within the novel that they thought were challenging (or words that they may not have previously known the definition of). **Students need to collect and define at least 15 words found in the novel** on this vocabulary list. Students may use context clues, a dictionary, or the internet to find and write down the definitions for these words.

This should all help to refresh our memories when using this book in class. **We will be working with this book during the first few weeks of school. This will include taking a final test over the novel within the first quarter.** Please bring all materials to class each day, including your book, and all three parts of the summer reading project outlined above. I will be checking everyone's projects so make sure this is completed and brought to the first day of school! **Your notes, your character list, and your vocabulary list should all be stapled together and in a labeled folder and come to school with you everyday in the fall. Your summer reading work serves as our day to day reference as we cover the book in class.**

Have a great summer and happy reading! I cannot wait to see you all in the fall!

Mrs Baillis

