

**TIMOTHY DWIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**JUNE 2016**

Dear Parents,

Summer is finally here! Along with all of the usual summer activities, we strongly encourage your child to continue reading and writing throughout the summer break. Did you know that research shows students actually lose academic growth over the summer months? To provide your child with opportunities to develop and maintain language arts skills during the long vacation, we request all students to participate in our Summer Reading and Writing Program.

Please review the enclosed Language Arts Rubric and set reading and writing goals with your child. At the end of the summer, your child will be expected to grade his/her reading and writing accomplishments on the enclosed self-assessment sheet. We are asking all Dwight students to make reading and writing a priority over the summer and aim for “Outstanding” achievement.

This year we are going paperless with our reading log and collaborating with the Fairfield Public Library to record minutes read on-line through their interactive program: ***“On Your Mark, Get Set...READ!”***

If you have not had the opportunity to register your children for the Fairfield Public Library Summer Reading Program - it's not too late! You can sign up at either the Main or Woods Branch Libraries or on-line: [Fairfieldpubliclibrary.org/childrens](http://Fairfieldpubliclibrary.org/childrens).

The following outlines the simple steps for success with this Summer Program for students entering grades 1 and 2:

**STEP #1:** Review the Language Arts Rubric and set reading and writing goals. Make sure to register for Fairfield Public Library's Summer Program: ***“On Your Mark, Get Set ... READ!”*** If you have any questions please contact Judy Sparzo, Branch Children's Librarian: ([jsparzo@fplct.org](mailto:jsparzo@fplct.org))

**STEP #2:** Read and write on a regular basis. Don't forget to:

- Record your daily reading times online. We plan to tally the hours spent reading from all students and post this Grand Total for all to see during the first week of school! (Books read to children may be included in this total)
- Write in your Summer Writing Journal each week.

**STEP #3:** Have a wonderful summer and...

- READ, READ, READ!!!
- WRITE, WRITE, WRITE!!!!

**STEP #4:** At the end of the summer, tally your results and complete the self-assessment form.

**STEP #5:** Return **ONLY** the completed self-assessment form and Summer Writing Journal to school on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you for your support. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Mimi Maniscalco  
Principal

Karen L. Carelli  
Language Arts

Karli Smith  
Language Arts

Kristen Robinson  
Library Media Specialist