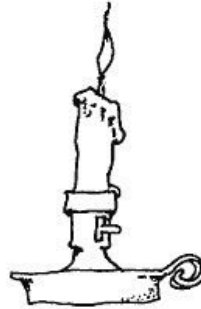


Attention 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Parents

It's Junior Great Books Time!

INVITATION

If you are a dreamer, come in,
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer . . .
If you're a pretender, come sit by my fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!



What is Junior Great Books?

Junior Great Books is a volunteer-led program that focuses on the reading of short stories by award-winning authors. Students read the short stories and share their ideas and opinions about them in small discussion groups with parent volunteer leader, Jen Dean.

Why is Junior Great Books Beneficial?

The benefits of reading and interpreting fiction include the ability to explore human experiences and emotions that are unfamiliar to us; thereby expanding our worldviews and teaching us empathy and appreciation for others' lives. Reading fiction encourages a child's creativity, and creates stronger language skills. Sharing their thoughts and experiences with a small group leads to broader understanding of literature and a greater comfort level with expressing ideas in a fun, encouraging environment.

How does Junior Great Books work?

Junior Great Books meetings will take place over lunch in a classroom beginning the week of January 14th and continuing for 8 weeks. Students will bring their lunches and drinks. ***Please Note: NO NUTS ALLOWED (including Peanut Butter) for lunches.***

Space and materials will limit participation to 16 students. **The cost of the program is \$35 per child** to cover all materials. The students will receive their books at the first meeting in January.

Students read an assigned short story from the book before each meeting (usually 10-15 pages). The story will then be re-read each week at the beginning of the meeting while the students eat their lunch, to help refresh their memories for the discussions.

How can I help?

Aside from encouraging the reading and, hopefully, some fun discussion of the stories at home, we are in need of parent volunteers to help out. No formal training is needed for this – assistance with encouraging lively but appropriate discussions is all we ask! A sign-up genius by grade will go out in early January, once the classes have been filled.

DATES & THEMES BY GRADE

3rd Grade Themes:

Relationships; Kindness; Confidence

3rd Grade (Tuesdays) Program Dates:

1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5

4th Grade Themes:

Trust; Resourcefulness; Communication

4th Grade (Fridays) Program Dates:

1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/1, 3/8

5th Grade Themes:

Humor & Horror as short story art forms

5th Grade (Thursdays) Program Dates:

1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7