



Westerly Middle School
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Paula Fusco
Principal

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Assistant Principal

Westerly Public Schools
School Committee Goals:

Support excellence in student
performance.

Recruit, retain, and develop
high quality staff.

Fully engage parents and
community.

Develop and implement
comprehensive financial
strategy.

Improve and maintain
Westerly School Facilities.

Our mission is to create an inspiring, challenging, and supportive environment where students are encouraged and assisted in reaching their highest potential.

June 2017

Dear WMS Student and Parent/Guardian:

WMS announces this year's Summer Bulldog Reading Challenge. Students are being asked to read two books of their choice and use these books to answer the essential question: *How can we build a better world?* Students will read the two books of their choice and will bring a product, also of their choice, to school in the fall. Projects are due in the library no later than September 16, 2017.

WMS knows that students of this age have different ways of expressing themselves. How students demonstrate their understanding of building a better world is very open-ended. The theme could be interpreted literally (as in creating and constructing buildings and other objects) or metaphorically (as in building community, building friendships, building connections between people, etc.). Your student's project should reflect the theme as it is interpreted by the student, but also in the 2 books s/he has read.

How can you get involved? As a family, you can choose together which books to read and discuss the question with your student. Please join us in being a part of this exciting and unifying endeavor. We are confident it will give everyone something to discuss. "Build a Better World" will be a reoccurring theme echoed throughout the 2017-2018 school year across the curriculum.

We strive to provide students with the tools they need to be strong readers. Even though summer may serve as a break from instruction, it is critical that we all continue learning and expanding our knowledge. WMS requires students to read two books over the summer, but please do not stop there. The more your student reads, the better s/he will understand the world in which we live, be better prepared for school content and expand their vocabularies. Using an essential question moves students toward the critical thinking skills necessary for twenty-first century learning.

Though we are offering choice, we know that some students will prefer to have some guidance in their selections so we have included some recommended reading and Please refer to the WMS website: <http://wms.westerly.k12.ri.us> for more information and to access our summer reading brochure for incoming Grades 5-8. It's all about the choices your reader can make.

Happy Reading!