

May 28, 2021

Dear future fourth graders and parents,

I am very excited to be your fourth grade teacher next year. The goal of this summer packet is to help you practice all the math and reading skills you have learned in third grade, and to prepare you for fourth grade.

First, please continue to work online in **Mathletics**. You have been registered and enclosed in this envelope is your sign in and password information. Your goal is to complete 4 certificates. This is a great way to practice your math skills.

Secondly, each student is required to read the following two books.

1. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* - by Judy Blume
2. *Because of Winn-Dixie* - by Kate DiCamillo

(if you have read one or both of these books, please read another book written by the same author)

Two book report assignments are attached to this letter that should be completed by August when we return back to school. Students are encouraged to read both books independently, but if needed the books can be read as a Read Aloud or listened to in Audio form. In addition, I would also like to encourage students to read two more books this summer of their choice in their AR level. These assignments in Math and Reading will be included in 1st Qtr grades.

Why is this summer work so important? Because according to studies, we know that students can have what is called "the Summer Slide" occur if they do not read or practice math over the summer.

*"A more recent study of children in 3rd to 5th grades also showed that students lost, on average, about 20 percent of their school-year gains in reading and 27 percent of their school-year gains in math during summer break."*

*Ashley Astrew, Scholastic, 2019*

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at [kilroe@basilicaschool.com](mailto:kilroe@basilicaschool.com) before the end of June. I will be away in July visiting my family in Maine. I hope you will enjoy reading these two books and more. Please remember to work consistently, so you can finish by August. Have a wonderful, safe summer.

Sincerely,

*Beth A. Kilroe*



**Responding to**  
**Tale of a Fourth Grade Nothing**

1. After you finish this funny book choose one of the character book report forms that is attached to write about either Peter or Fudge.



**Because of Winn-Dixie**

1. After you finish reading this lovely book complete the other character book report form attached about Opal.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### MAIN CHARACTERS

Choose one main character from a fictional book, and answer the questions below about that character.

Character Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the character's appearance and personality:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What was the importance of this character to the story?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the form below comparing yourself to this character.

Alike	Not Alike

Did you like this character? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Free Choice

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# CHARACTER PROFILE

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

Character \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Male or Female (circle one)

Describe the character in the book. Tell what you think the character looked like:

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What kind of personality did this character have?

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What did the character do that you admire?

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