



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Did you know that when kids don't read over the summer they are likely to fall behind when they head back to school? These learning losses are often called the "Summer Slide," and our school has made it a priority to keep our students' skills sharp by encouraging them to read all summer long.

Our school has signed up to participate in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, a free online reading program that invites children to log their reading minutes to help set a new world record for summer reading. The goal this year for schools around the world is to break last year's reading world record of 304,749,681 minutes!

I'm excited to share that the theme of this year's program is Power Up & Read; as kids log their reading minutes, they will unlock stories written by bestselling authors. Plus, throughout the summer, kids will earn digital rewards and learn about great new books to read. You'll also find free articles, activity sheets, and book lists for parents on the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website.

The fun begins on May 4, 2015, and ends on September 4, 2015! The school that logs the most minutes will win a visit from a bestselling children's book author and will be featured in The 2016 Scholastic Book of World Records.

Our school-wide goal is 1 million minutes (or more!) Students entering grades K thru 8 Fall 2015 will pledge to read (or be read to) and log at least 10 minutes per day. Students will be given a pre-assigned username and password to log minutes at www.scholastic.com/summer. **Those students entering grades 4-8 Fall 2015 are required to log their minutes on the Summer Reading Log which will be turned in for a grade the first week of school and again the first week of September. They also need to log their minutes online or minutes will not count toward the challenge.** If your child does not have access to a computer this summer, they can use the school computers to log their minutes when the 2015 school year begins. Minutes can also be logged using the Scholastic Reading Timer app for Apple or Android.

Students and Parent/Guardian must sign and return the Summer Reading Pledge by Tuesday, May 12th. For every 60 minutes read, students will earn one raffle ticket to be entered into a drawing for prizes! By the way, last year OLOM was the #4 school in Louisiana and the #81 school in the world! Pretty impressive, but I know we can do even better this year!

Thanks for supporting this program and for encouraging our kids to READ!!

Sincerely,

Claire Willis
Assistant Principal for Academics
Our Lady of Mercy School

Dates to Remember:

May 12 th	Return Summer Reading Pledge – Pre-K - 7
May 4 th to September 4 th	Log minutes online & on log sheet – Pre-K - 7
First week in August	Turn in log sheet for a grade – Grades 4-8
First Week in September	Turn in log sheet for a grade – Grades 4-8



CHURCH

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SCHOOL

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