

Dear Parents of Rising 5th Graders,

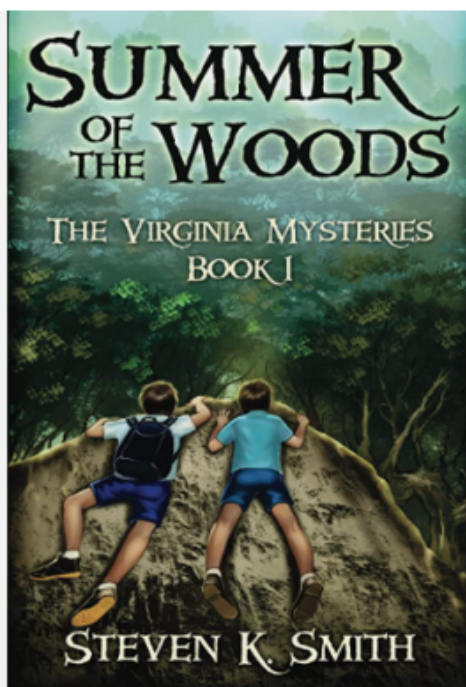
Summer provides a wonderful opportunity for students to enjoy great books! Reading over the summer can also help students to maintain or even improve their reading skills. Ideally, students should be incorporating reading into their daily schedule, even if it is for a short period of time.

The mandatory summer reading for all incoming fifth graders is, "**Summer of the Woods, The Virginia Mysteries Book 1**" by Steven K. Smith. Students will be participating in class discussions and graded assignments pertaining to the book when we return to school. PLEASE DO NOT allow your child to take the AR test on this book over the summer. I would recommend reading this book as close to the start of the school year as possible or read it more than one time so they will remember the book when they return to school.

In addition to the assigned book, your child is encouraged to continue his or her excellent habit of spending time reading each day while enjoying summer break! Spending just 20 minutes of reading time each day will make a dramatic difference in your child's success in the upcoming school year. **AR testing is open at Kenston on Wednesdays from 9-12. Please see the AR summer testing flier for specific dates and procedures.** I have provided a reading log with this letter; please record the books your child reads over the summer. If you need more copies, they will be available on the Kenston website, under summer work. I am looking forward to a fun-filled educational school year with you and your child!

Please don't hesitate to message the school if you have any questions.

Mrs. Gregory



Do you remember your first real adventure? When summer was filled with magic and anything seemed possible...

Magic Tree House meets The Hardy Boys...A perfect reading adventure that will hook even reluctant young readers!

When young brothers Derek and Sam move with their family to Virginia, they have no idea what adventures the summer will bring. As they explore their creaky old house and the deep surrounding woods, they uncover a sixty-year-old mystery of a valuable coin collection stolen from the local museum. Join the boys as they spend their summer running from danger and searching the woods, secret caves, rushing waters, and hidden passageways for treasure and the rare 1877 Indian Head cent coin!

Summer of the Woods is the first book in The Virginia Mysteries series. If you enjoy mystery and adventure like the Hardy Boys, Nancy Drew, Magic Tree House, or National Treasure, you'll love author Steven K. Smith's exciting middle-grade series. The stories are modern-day fictional mysteries with twists of real locations and events from Virginia history. These fast-paced books are popular with both boys and girls ages 7-12, appealing to even reluctant readers!

