

Dear OQS Parents,

Summer academic/reading loss has been a topic of educational research for years. It is no surprise that studies show that students performed more poorly after summer vacation than they did before the summer break.

Reading influences achievement – the simple fact is that those students that read and have access to books over the summer arrive at school, in the fall, with small reading **gains**. Those students that don't read, or have access to books over the summer, arrive at school, in the fall, registering summer reading **losses**.

On average, summer vacations create a gap of about 3 months between middle- and lower-class students. This gap was the result of **poor children losing about 2 months of reading development and middle-class children adding about 1 month of development.**

Children who read at least 20-30 minutes daily during the summer have significantly higher reading comprehension gains during the summer than those who read less.

There are several ways you and your child can have access to books:

- 1) Students can check out up to 5 books from the OQS library via Ms. Peterson. Papers regarding this opportunity have gone home but are still available in the library or on the OQS website.
- 2) The local Quechee Public Library has a summer reading program once a week (Tuesdays at 4:00). There are guest speakers, arts and crafts activities, fun and lots of books!
- 3) Lyndon State College offers some online programs (from 4 year-olds to high school students) to help with summer reading skills. For more information call 1-800-903-0942.

SO..... PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD READ!

Sincerely,
Lynn Porter, Reading Specialist