



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you back to Cooper Elementary School and especially to the Media Center. Each week your child will visit our Media Center. During this time, they will learn library skills as outlined in the library/media center curriculum for Cherry Hill. This includes learning about award winning children's literature (Caldecott Medal, Newbery Award, Coretta Scott King Award), listening to a variety of books written by different authors, and gaining an appreciation of literature. They will listen to stories, partake in whole-group discussions, and actively participate in enrichment activities that coincide with the selected story.

The third, fourth, and fifth grade students will also use online resources and web sites in the computer lab and on our new laptops to learn and expand their research skills. These research skills will help us on our IB-PYP journey. The students will use these skills to create and answer meaningful inquiry questions.

Another aspect of library is encouraging students to check out books. The students will be guided to select books that will peek their individual interests. Students in the upper grades will also select books to assist with projects for their classroom. In order for the students to be successful of the proper care and prompt return of their library books, we need your help! The students will come to the library on the same day each week. This is also the day that their library books are due back the following week. Please help to remind your child to place his or her library book into his or her backpack on the day the class has library. If a child forgets to bring back the library book from the previous week, he or she will not be able to take a new one home. I do, however, encourage the child to pick out a book that he or she would like to read. I then tell them that I will hold the book until the next day. The student is then given a second chance, and if the book is returned the next day, he or she will be able to take a new one home. If a student still owes library books at the end of the marking period, his/her report cards will not be issued until the book is either returned or paid for, as per the Cherry Hill School District policy.

Cooper School students are very lucky because they have a library with an extensive collection of wonderful books! Both fiction and non-fiction books that are appropriate for all grade levels are available in the library, along with periodicals. Our library also has a "Parent Shelf" which includes books about sibling rivalry, encouraging reading, and parenting tips. I encourage you to come in and browse our collection. Parents are also welcome to bring home our books.

Together, with your help, I am confident that your child will have an enjoyable library experience here at Cooper School.

Sincerely,

Ms. Cindy O'Reilly  
Cooper School Library Media Specialist

