WE HAD GREAT FUN IN KINDERGARTEN THIS YEAR! THE PAST FEW MONTHS YOUR CHILDREN ENJOYED STORYTELLING, UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN AN AUTHOR AND AN ILLUSTRATOR, SINGING AND UNDERSTANDING AND USING QR CODES! I CANNOT WAIT TO SEE THESE WONDERFUL STUDENTS IN FIRST GRADE! HERE ARE SOME FAVORITE BOOKS FROM THIS TRIMESTER. TRY SOLVING THE RIDDLE BEFORE SCANNING THE QR CODE! HERE IS THE RIDDLE: I AM BLUE, IL CAN FLY AND I LOVE BUSSES! WHO AM I?

IN FIRST GRADE, WE ENDED THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH UNDERSTANDING THE PARTS OF A BOOK (OUTSIDE), EASY PICTURE BOOK SPINE LABELS AND AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR STUDIES. WE ALSO USED IPADS AND WE HAD A QR CODE SCAVENGER HUNT IN THE EASY PICTURE BOOK SECTION OF THE LIBRARY! HERE ARE SOME BOOKS WE ENJOYED........

I cannot believe my third graders are headed to fourth grade!! Wow! In the past few months we have reviewed the use of Destiny, the online catalog, but this time searching by subject. Moreover, the children also learned about Google Drive and how to login. They even experienced what it is like to simultaneously type in a Google Doc with their table-mates! That was fun! Lastly, we spent quite a bit of time discussing digital citizenship. Here is a very brief summary of some of the topics we discussed: cyber-bullying, personal and private information, what it takes to be a good digital citizen, to stop and think before you click (be careful what you post—It could keep you from getting into college or from getting a job or vice-versa).

In fourth grade, this trimester, we discussed and reviewed the basic story elements. The students did an excellent job responding with a total participation activity reflecting upon all the story elements, in response to the book Promiditi by Chris van Allsburg. This lesson is an excellent prelude to the sixth grade summer reading project they will have for next year! Also, during these past few weeks, the students had a chance to view their classmates' digital citizenship videos and comic strips that they uploaded onto Google Drive. Ask your child to show you their project. They did an excellent job and learned quite a bit this year about appropriate online behavior along with becoming experts on the use of Google Drive, e.g. learning how to login, upload videos and pictures and share projects! Magnificent job!

Lastly, the students also, in preparation for fifth grade, learned how to use Google Slides and created a book promo. This book promo project allowed the students to not only learn how to use Google Slides, they also had to create a brief summary about a book they enjoyed this school year and insert a picture of the book!

Everyone, please make sure you read each day this summer for 20 minutes or more!

Last but not least, in fifth grade, the students learned many skills during the third trimester. Not only have they become more skilled in using Google Drive, they have taken this platform to a whole new level. While working on their European Explorers projects, they learned research skills such as taking notes, how to cite a website and a book through the use of Noodle Tools. They perfected how to insert pictures, shared their work and communicated with students at other DASD Elementary schools. Also, during these past few months, the students discussed and learned about creating strong passwords and privacy rules. The students also were reminded of their sixth grade Summer Reading projects and were given book talks about the various books on the list. So long my fifth graders, I shall miss you! Good luck at the Sixth Grade Marsh Creek Center!