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Giving the Gift of Reading



Bayonne Board of Education

December 2010



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Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Seasons Greetings to you and your entire family!

The Bayonne Public Schools will be closed from December 24, 2010 through January 2, 2011. During the school recess, I urge all parents/guardians to give an important gift to your child...the gift of reading!

This is the seventh year of the Bayonne School District's highly successful literacy initiative, and this year, the district theme is *Climb Aboard the Reading Express (C.A.R.E.)* Thus far, our students have read 1,689,632 books, which is a major milestone in the district's goal to promote a love of reading each and every day!

Please review these important reading tips. Together we can build a community of lifelong readers!

Have a Happy and Healthy New Year! Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Patricia L. McGeehan

Patricia L. McGeehan, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Stress-Busting Holiday Reading Tips

as excerpted from *Reading Is Fundamental*

While the holidays can be stressful and frantic for many moms and dads, spending time reading together is a great reason to turn off the television, cuddle up, and relax. To make reading a part of your holiday traditions, try some of these fun literacy activities:

- ~ Encourage your child to create bookmarks to enclose in a gift book or to mark the place in your own book where you leave off during read-aloud time.
- ~ Ask your child to help with holiday shopping. Have him/her write out the list and then read the items aloud as you peruse the aisles together.
- ~ Give your child a companion book to traditional holiday gifts, such as a book on juggling and several brightly colored balls, a book about fossils and a bag of plaster of paris, or a book about stamp collecting and a stamp album.
- ~ When it's time for holiday baking, ask your child to read the directions aloud to you. While the cookies are in the oven, read a short book together.
- ~ Help your child make his/her own holiday gifts for family and friends by following the directions in a how-to book.
- ~ Ask your child to help you write out gift nametags. Use extra large gift tags for tiny hands.
- ~ Visit the library and pick out some holiday favorites for festive family reading all season long.