

## **To Parents of Incoming Fourth Graders:**

Your child is required to read **three books** over the summer. **The following title is required:**

### **Hero Two Doors Down** by Sharon Robinson

Written by Jackie Robinson's daughter, a story based on a true friendship between a boy and a baseball legend.

To complete the requirement, choose **two titles** from the list below. Brief annotations have been provided for each title to help you and your child with selection.

### **A Sporting Chance: How Ludwig Guttmann Created the Paralympic Games**

by Lori Alexander (a nonfiction biography)

A biography of Ludwig Guttman who dedicated his life to helping patients labeled as "incurables." The young doctor believed—and eventually proved—that physical movements is key to healing, a discovery that led him to create the first Paralympic Games.

### **Who Was Duke Ellington?** By M.D. Payne (a nonfiction biography)

A pivotal fixture of the Harlem Renaissance, from Washington D.C., Duke Ellington was the bandleader of the historic Cotton Club and a master composer — writing close to 3,000 songs in his lifetime and capturing the spirit of the Black experience in the Unites States. Over a 50-year career, Ellington became one of the biggest names in jazz as we know it.

### **Allergic** by Megan Lloyd

A coming-of- age graphic novel featuring a girl with severe allergies who just wants to find the perfect pet!

**Ways to Make Sunshine** by Renee Watson

Ryan Hart loves to spend time with her friends, loves to invent recipes, and has a lot on her mind—school, self-image, and family. Her dad finally has a new job, but money is tight. That means changes like selling their second car and moving into a new (old) house. But Ryan is a girl who knows how to make sunshine out of setbacks.

**Stella Diaz Has Something to Say** by Angela Dominguez

When a new boy arrives in Stella's class, she really wants to be his friend, but sometimes Stella accidentally speaks Spanish instead of English and pronounces words wrong, which makes her turn roja. Plus, she has to speak in front of her whole class for a big presentation at school! But she better get over her fears soon, because Stella Díaz has something to say

**Fourth Grade Rats** by Jerry Spinelli

Suds knows that now that he's in fourth grade, he's supposed to be a rat. But whenever he tries to act like one, something goes wrong. Can Sud's friend Joey teach him to toughen up, or will Suds remain a fourth-grade wimp?

**Matilda** by Roald Dahl

Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

**Cricket in Times Square** by George Selden

The adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat.