Dear Families: 

**Our Current Unit of Study is:** Reading Unit: Getting to Know Characters and Their Stories:

 Essential Skills & Strategies for Reading Fiction

**Essential Question for this unit:**

* How can I be a thoughtful fiction reader who thinks carefully about characters and their stories, asking and answering questions, drawing on strategies when books (and characters, too) are hard to understand, and considering what an author intends for me to learn through a character’s journey?

**In this unit students will learn:**

* How to draw on strategies they know and are learning to continue getting to know characters even when it’s hard to do so.
* How to use their best inquiry skills to consider the question: “How do characters change and grow?”
* How they can work with classmates to draw on their answers to this question to consider what lessons an author intended for the characters to learn and then to connect these to their own lives.

**What you can do to help your child practice skills that will be taught in this unit:**

**Ask your child questions about the characters in their books:**

* What is the character feeling in the book?
* What does the character really want?
* What kind of person is this character?
* How would I describe the character?
* What would you do next if I were the character?