



## Durham Intermediate School Battle of the Books 2008

April 25, 2008

Dear 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

All DIS sixth grade students will participate in the *Seventh Annual DIS Battle of the Books*, held throughout the last six weeks of this year. This is a dynamic program that encourages students to become enthusiastic, lifelong readers. Every student in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be placed on a team and challenged to read and conquer all six *Battle* titles. After weeks of independent reading, group discussion and preparation, students will be ready to battle each other for supremacy. The teams will compete in a quiz-show format to answer correctly comprehension questions based on the content of the books. This is a fun competition and a great team building exercise. *Battle of the Books* is truly one of the highlights of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year.

The final 6 weeks of all language arts/reading classes will be dedicated to reading the *Battle* books. Actual battles will begin in late May with competitions within each language arts teacher's classroom. The competition will progress to battles between teams from different language arts teachers. The competition ends with a Final Four Battle between the four, overall winning teams.

Following is a list of the 7 books that have been selected by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade language arts teachers:

- *Small Steps* by Peg Kehret
- *Crash* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Poppy* by Avi
- *The Dollhouse Murders* by Betty Wren Wright
- *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town* by Kimberly Willis Holt
- *Zach's Lie* by Roland Smith
- *The Kid Who Ran for President* by Dan Gutman

All students are required to read at least 2 of the 7 titles. They should read for detail as well as general information. Language arts teachers, respectively, will send home a list of the specific requirements expected from their students regarding the ***Battle of the Books***. Please encourage your child to read as many of the titles as possible. As an added incentive, students who read all 7 titles will be invited to attend the victory party together with the winning team. We hope you and your child will enjoy participating in this wonderful reading program.

## **Let the Battle Begin!**

### **Battle Timeline 2008**

#### **Battle Introduction**

*April 23-25th*

Program introduction; students will check out books and begin reading

#### **Battle #1**

*Tuesday, May 27th*

Battles will be held between the teams in each language arts class. Each language arts teacher will have one winning team per class.

#### **Battle #2**

*Wednesday, May 28th*

The winning team from each language arts class will battle a team from another teacher's class that meets at the same time; e.g., 2nd period Morris winner vs. 2nd period Nezda winner (if they have classes at the same time), etc. The result will be 4 final teams to compete.

#### **Final Durham Battle**

*Thursday, May 29th* (pending) in the cafeteria at a time to be determined. All 6th graders will attend. The four remaining teams will battle and one will emerge the winner!

#### **Fun things to know!**

Each team chooses a name. Each team also creates a team banner to display during the competition.

#### **Party!**

The winning team will have a victory party at a time and date to be determined. Every student who reads all seven books will also attend the party.