Battle of the Books Program
Battle of the Books (BOB) is a reading incentive program that encourages our learners to enjoy reading, book discussion and analysis. All 4th and 5th grade students are invited to participate in our club and try out for our competitive team.

Battle of the Books Tournament
MVCS has been invited to compete against other south county schools at St. Margaret’s Episcopal School in March 2018 during school hours. Each school may bring two teams of five participants consisting of 4th and 5th graders. All questions asked are from a selected list of twenty books. All questions begin with “In which book….?” and the answer is always the title and the author of the book. The winning team earns a trophy for their school.

BOB Club Membership
Completed BOB applications should be turned into Mrs. Rentrop in the Library Media Center by 9/4.

To join BOB, 4th & 5th graders must read as many of the selected 20 books on the list as possible (see Key Dates), complete book notes, and attend the book clubs. In January, we will select the ten team members, according to attendance at book club meetings, coaches’ evaluations and a written test. The non-team club members can still attend book club meetings, help coach the team as a study buddy, and cheer on our school at the tournament. We will hold an in-house BOB competition that will emulate the interschool Battle of the Books Competition. At this point, each child on the team will specialize in four of the books.

Summer Reading
Over the Summer, we suggest readers get a head start on reading as many of the first month’s four books as possible. We have scheduled our two longest books first, along with 2 quick reads, to help everyone make the most of this extra time.
**Parent Involvement**

We are looking for some parents (each) to be responsible for one of the books on the list, which will include writing study questions, and doing a total of 4 study sessions. Please contact Dawn Rentrop if you are interested.

**Note:** If your child is not going to read all the books, but would like to read a few and attend a few book clubs, please join us! We will address any questions during a Parent Meeting on 8/31 after school. Our BOB committee is happy to work through any specific questions or concerns.
The book list was selected by a group of librarians from the participating schools. These schools will all be reading through the same list. The books will be available to check out in the Library Media Center or from the public library. We highly encourage you to purchase the books. During the book clubs, we will be highlighting, underlining, and taking notes on the important themes and details.

Reading List

The Secret Keepers by Trenton Lee Steward
Treasure Hunters by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein
The Search for WondLa by Toni DiTerlizzi
El Deafo by Cece Bell

Booked by Kwame Alexander
Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord
When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

Who Was Helen Keller? by Gare Thompson
The Lightning Queen by Laura Resau
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Loot: How to Steal a Fortune by Jude Watson

Slacker by Gordon Korman
Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark by Ridley Pearson
The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm
Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Jack Gantos

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum
Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool
The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible…on Schindler’s List by Leon Leyson
Dash by Kirby Larsen
Questions? Please contact us at battleofthebooks@mvcschool.org

- BOB 2016-2017 Program Overview
- BOB Application
- BOB Book List 2016-17
- BOB Log (Amendable Form)
- BOB Log (PDF)

Under Program Overview:

A schedule of Key Dates:
Friday 9/9 Parent Meeting
Friday 9/16 Summer Reading Logs and Application Due
Saturday 9/17 BOB Club Membership Confirmed
Etc.
Battle of the Books Information

1. What is Battle of the Books / BOB?
Battle of the Books is a 7 month long reading program for students in 4th and 5th grades. Students in Battle of the Books read 20 books over the course of the year, meet weekly on Tuesdays during lunch, and participate in an intra and inter-school competition.

Please know that students do not need to commit to the BOB program until we return in the fall, so you may let your child make this decision in September. Until then, there are just a few suggestions I have in order to make your experience with BOB enjoyable. First, please know that students can experience the books in a variety of ways. Some students read the entire list by themselves, some will listen to audio versions, and some will read the more challenging books with their parents. Any of these methods will work—our main concern is that your student is continuing to enjoy the process and remains excited about reading.

2. Competitions
A) Intra-school at MVCS, date TBD
   - All students will be placed in teams before Winter Break
   - Teams will be made up of 5 students (4th and 5th graders combined)
   - MVCS Competition is held in the chapel and emulates the interschool competition

B) Inter-school at St. Margaret’s Episcopal School in San Juan Capistrano in March
   - Two teams of 5 students plus 2 alternates attend this competition
   - Parents and teachers with identification badges are welcome to attend
   - Competition questions are developed by an outside company

C) Competition Format
   - Both the MVCS and the interschool competition are point based competitions.
     Teams compete in preliminary rounds and then move on to the finals if they are among the top point earners
   - Rounds consist of 16–20 questions which alternate from one team to the other
   - All questions are asked in the same format and must be answered by the team captain: In which book ________________?  
     Example: In which book does a character eat snozzcumber?
     Answer: The BFG, by Roald Dahl

3. Weekly Meetings
   - Tuesdays at lunch. Students may eat lunch in the library.
   - Students will earn points for attendance and participating in activities
   - Book discussions will be conducted first, sometimes followed by a fun team activity/competition.
   - Book discussions involve analysis of themes/plot/characters, etc. Open-ended questions are used to provoke students to think deeply about the author’s message and the big ideas in books. Games at the end of meetings will be used to focus on the books’ details.
THE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2017-2018

Welcome, readers!  By choosing to participate in The MVCS Battle of the Books, you will be responsible for:

• Reading the 20 books on the designated list
• Attending Tuesday lunch meetings in the Library and being on time
• Exhibiting sportsmanship and leadership
• Supporting all fellow team members

General:

1. Weekly meetings will be held every Tuesday during lunch in the Library.
2. To make the most of our meeting time, we will progress through the book list together. Students will need to read a specific group of books by the dates shown below and will choose a different book each week to discuss at our meetings. For instance, during the first four Mondays, students will choose to read one of the following each week: The Secret Keepers, Treasure Hunters, The Search for WondLa, and El Deafo. All four of these books should be read in any order by September 26. Our first meeting will be on September 5.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>September 26</th>
<th>October 24</th>
<th>November 21</th>
<th>December 19</th>
<th>January 30</th>
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<td>Titles</td>
<td>The Secret Keepers, Treasure Hunters, The Search for WondLa, El Deafo</td>
<td>Booked, Fish in a Tree, A Handful of Stars, When You Reach Me</td>
<td>Who Was Helen Keller?, The Lightning Queen, Ghost, Loot: How to Steal a Fortune</td>
<td>Slacker, Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark, The Fourteenth Goldfish, Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key</td>
<td>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, Moon Over Manifest, The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible...on Schindler’s List, Dash</td>
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3. The MVCS Battle of the Books Competition will tentatively be held on _______day, ___________, 2018 from 10:30—11:45 a.m.
4. The Interschool Battle of the Books Competition will be held in March at St. Margaret’s Episcopal School in San Juan Capistrano. This competition runs from 9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Name__________________________________ Student Signature________________________

Parent name(s)________________________________ Phone (___)__________

Email(s)__________________________________________________________