

# Palmer Media Center

Information for Rising 6th Graders & Their Parents

## Destiny MyQuest

Destiny is our library's online catalog. You can access it at home through Cobb Virtual Library at <http://cvl.cobbk12.org/> and by selecting our school from the menu. You'll need to enter the CVL passwords for home use.



You can browse through the top 10 most popular books, resource lists that Mrs. Sanford has created for you, and a list of the 15 newest books at Palmer or search for the books you want.

By creating a MyQuest account, you'll be able to review books (grammar & spelling count!), create your own lists, add books to virtual bookshelves (want to read, reading now, and have read), and recommend books to friends. Please keep in mind that Destiny MyQuest is monitored by Mrs. Sanford and the Cobb County School District, so you really need to make sure that you using it correctly by making appropriate comments. As we like to remind our students, this is FOR BOOKS, not FaceBook! You should not be having any conversations about non-book related topics or you will lose your MyQuest privileges.

Make sure you add Mrs. Dorothy Sanford as your friend to access recommendations directly from your media specialist and be sure to recommend your favorite books to me as well. I love reading what you recommend and have found some new favorites

### Summer Reading

- *Check the Palmer webpage for more information about the summer reading requirement.*

<http://cobbk12.org/palmer/>

### Hot Books & Series

- *Diary of A Wimpy Kid series*
- *Heroes of Olympus series*
- *Tim Green books*
- *Warriors series*
- *Maze Runner series*
- *The Kane Chronicles series*
- *Origami Yoda*
- *Gallagher Girls series*

## Media Center & Reading Related Clubs

### Book Fair

A Scholastic Book Fair is held twice yearly here at Palmer. The first book fair is during the fall conference week (usually the 3rd week of October). The second book fair is the week before Spring Break. The sale is a great reading promotion and a fundraiser for the media center.

### Promotion of Reading

Fun contests with cool prizes will be scheduled regularly throughout the school year to encourage all students to read for fun and learning. See Mrs. Sanford's blog for more information.

### Media Helpers

Each year, students complete an application process to become media helpers. Media helpers assist in checking books in and out, handing out overdue notices, shelving books, and creating displays. Look for applications during Sneak-A-Peek.

<http://janellmccclure.typepad.com/mccclure/>

# Parent Page

## *Saving Work*

- Students would greatly benefit from owning a USB memory device.
- Please have the student's name clearly marked on the exterior of the flash drive.
- Create an empty folder or document within the flash drive and name it your student's name.



Typically, USB flash drives can cost anywhere from \$5 and up.

## *Cobb Virtual Library (CVL)*

Students at Palmer Middle School will use the Cobb Virtual Library (CVL) when conducting and citing research on the Internet. CVL is a paid subscription providing a selection of databases and multimedia resources only available to Cobb



students. CVL resources are all fact-checked and expertly produced unlike popular search engines (such as Google or Bing) which generate thousands or even millions of articles and images that are not necessarily produced by experts, fact-checked, or even middle grades appropriate.

## *A Word of Advice for Parents*

You might think that all media centers are the same, but you'd be wrong!

Whereas an elementary school must provide for K-5th graders and contains a mixture of picture books and juvenile fiction, a middle school media center must fill the needs of 10 and 11 year-olds in 6th grade up to 14 and 15-year-olds in 8th grade.

Your child will need your guidance in order to choose books that are age appropriate and suitable for your family.

The Palmer media center contains juvenile fiction as well as books that are clearly marked "M" (mature) on the spine and noted within Destiny, our online library catalog. A book may be classified as "M" for many different reasons. These books are typically somewhat controversial and require a parental permission slip to be checked out. Books written with young adults in mind confront issues that may include coming of

age, relationships, sex, drug/alcohol abuse, intense violence, and other controversial topics. These books tend to be better suited for more mature students.

Please be assured that I carefully read several reliable reviews for each of the books that I purchase for the Palmer media center. That said, because each and every student and family is different, I ask that you speak with your child about your expectations about what books they read and check-out. Ultimately, the choice is yours as a parent, and we respect your decision in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have. I look forward to working with your child and fostering a life-long love of reading.

Dorothy(Betsy) Sanford, Media Specialist