

We are readers. Our identity is forged in the quiet rebellion of turning a page instead of scrolling a screen. We believe a book is more than paper and ink; it is a **profound gift** we give ourselves, an **intentional priority** in a world that demands constant attention.

In a lunchroom buzzing with chatter, we find solace in a story. Instead of succumbing to the endless swirl of social media, we are **diving deep** into a new world, a new idea, or a new history. We do this not to escape, but to **connect**—to connect with the past, to understand the present, and to shape the future.

Reading is our **quiet protest** against the superficial. It is a commitment to personal growth and a profound act of self-care. It's the dessert after a long day, the warm bath that washes away stress, the gentle unwinding before sleep.

We are not just readers; we are **role models**. We show our children that a life well-lived is a life well-read. We demonstrate that caring for our minds is just as important as caring for our bodies. We pursue our own intellectual journeys so we can better serve our family, our community, and the world. Just as travel exposes us to new places and cultures, reading takes us on a journey leading to empathy for those different from ourselves. It expands our world and connects us to the universal human experience.

This is our creed: To read is to live. To learn is to lead. To open a book is to open the door to a **better, more thoughtful world**. We are the **architects of our own minds**, one page at a time. And so. . .