

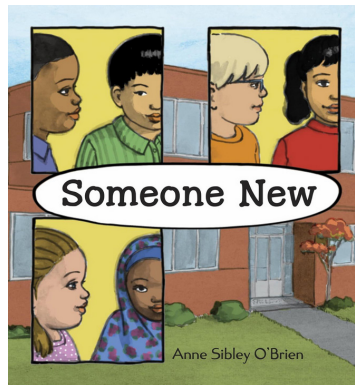
RIVERMONT READS TOGETHER

SUMMER 2026

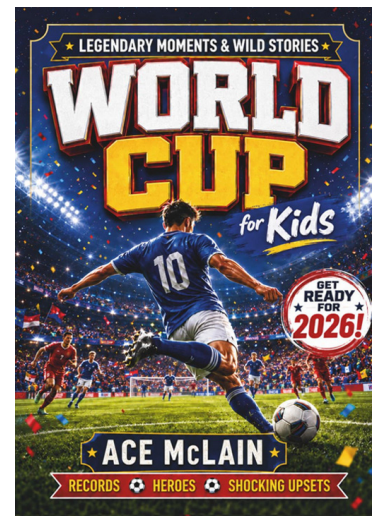
All Rivermont students should come to school on August 17th, 2026, having read *one (or more)* of the following books. We will spend a significant amount of time during our first week discussing the themes and ideas raised by the readings.

About the Book:

This summer, the United States will play host to the 2026 World Cup, the most-watched athletic event in the world. Soccer, or futbol, is the most participated in sport globally. It is more than a game. It is a sport that can bring communities and nations together, even as it occasionally can lead to conflict. In these books, readers of all ages can find stories about how soccer changes lives. We hope everyone will be able to take in some World Cup soccer matches this summer and use the opportunity to reflect upon our global interconnectedness, even as we root for our national teams.



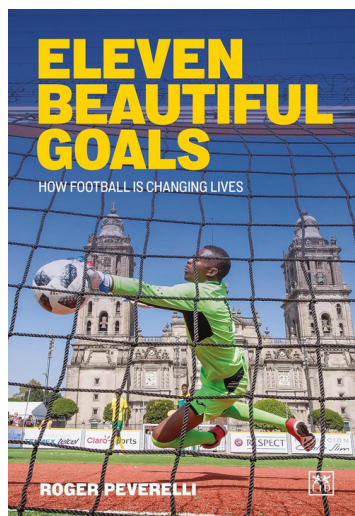
For young readers



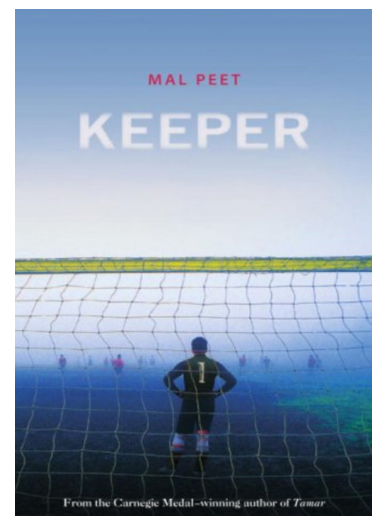
For 3rd – 7th grade

Reflection Questions:

1. In *Someone New*, how does soccer help reduce “inter-group anxiety”? What are some other ways to create connections with people who are new to a community?
2. In *World Cup for Kids*, what was your favorite legendary World Cup story? Why?
3. In *Eleven Beautiful Goals*, which chapter spoke to you the most? Why?
4. In *Keeper*, is Gato’s path to the World Cup fate or destiny? Explain.
5. Why do you think soccer is such a universally loved sport? Why do you think it hasn’t achieved the level of popularity in America that it has in other parts of the world?



For 8th – 12th grade



For those who prefer fiction