

## **Matthew Strauss—BookSmiles Ambassador**

Matthew has collected over 17,000 books for BookSmiles. He started collecting books in 2019 at Sunnybrook Swim Club in Moorestown, NJ. Over the past several years, he has hosted multiple book drives at both Sunnybrook and Jersey Wahoos in Mount Laurel, where he is a club swimmer. During the summer of 2022, Matthew created the Burlington County Book Battle, a competition where swim clubs in Burlington County competed to collect as many books as possible. The competition was a huge success, collecting over 10,000 books for BookSmiles. Matthew is an 8th grader at Moorestown Friends School, where he is on the Math Counts and soccer teams. He is also a part of the Middle School Ensemble and Yearbook. Since the age of eight, his favorite book series has been Harry Potter.