



Dear Middle School Students and Families,

The season of **SUMMER READING** has arrived!

While summer is a time for fun, relaxation, and family time, it is also a time where the minds of students *may* get a bit foggy and reluctant to remember all that they have learned during the year previous. Alas, summer reading!

What is the purpose of summer reading?

- Maintain critical reading and thinking skills over vacation.
- Get swept away in literature curated for the class that a student may not pick up on their own.
- Experience the joys of independent reading and gear up for the school year ahead.

What are the expectations for summer reading?

- You are required to read **TWO** books this summer: one book from the provided grade appropriate list **and** one grade appropriate “free choice” book.
- You will complete **TWO** assignments for summer reading (1 per novel)
 1. Create a **visual representation** of one of your novels (poster board, diorama, a computer based visual such as a slideshow, create a video book trailer, etc.) You may email me to run an idea by me if need be.
 2. Complete a **report** on one of your novels (minimum of 1 page front and back or 2 single sided pages, double spaced, 12pt font) Tell me about the novel: characters, plot, conflict, rising and falling action, etc. What did you like or dislike? Would you recommend your book to someone else? Why or why not? (see the attached **Story Map** to help get your thoughts together)

How can parents help their children complete summer reading?

- Set aside designated time to read that will not interfere with summer plans—better yet, read on the beach, in the car, by the lake!
- Encourage your child to read novels that he/she will find interesting.
- Read together. There are many new Middle Grade books that adults find entertaining as well...totally mean it!
- Check out **Audible** to have your child *listen* to the novel. I absolutely love listening to books this way and my young kids do as well. You may find that your child absorbs more this way.

I'm looking forward to both Language Arts and Literature with you all in the new school year. Happy reading! I cannot wait to see which books you choose to get into this summer 😊

--Mrs. Firnhaber

Rising 6th Grade Book List:

- *Out of My Mind*—Sharon M. Draper
- *Ophie's Ghosts*—Justina Ireland
- *The Canyon's Edge* by Dusti Bowling
- *Beneath the Swirling Sky (The Restorationists)*-- Carolyn Leiloglou
- *How To Survive The 6th Grade*--by J.R. Clark

Rising 7th Grade Book List:

- *A Monster Calls*—Patrick Ness
- *Fly Girl*—Sherri L. Smith
- *The Probability of Everything*--Sarah Everett
- *The Lost Year*—Katherine Marsh
- *Ten Thousand Tries*—Amy Makechnie

Rising 8th Grade Book List:

- *Ghost Hunters Daughter*—Dan Poblocki
- *Pretty Little Liars (Pretty Little Liars, Book 1)*--Sara Shepard
- *I Will Always Write Back*—Caitlin Alifirenka & Martin Gando
- *The Mysterious Benedict Society*—Trenton Lee Stewart
- *Tight*—Torrey Maldonado

STORY MAP

Name _____

Date _____

Title and Author

Character(s)

Setting

BEGINNING

MIDDLE

END