

# 2016 SUMMER READING FOR UPCOMING 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." – Dr. Seuss*

Dear Parents and Students,

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade English teachers have designed a summer reading program which will...

- Reinforce literary elements studied in previous years
- Preview types of classroom activities and assessments students will have during the school year
- Provide support and enrichment for at-risk readers, competent readers, and superior readers
- Vertically align our summer reading program with the high school
- Create a community of readers and encourage reading for enjoyment

## **PART 1: STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO READ ONE BOOK FOR THE SUMMER.**

**PLEASE SELECT AN APPROPRIATE NOVEL OF INTEREST TO YOU THAT IS ON YOUR READING LEVEL.**

**FORMER CLASS NOVEL TITLES IN 6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED. IN ADDITION, PLEASE AVOID POPULAR MOVIE TITLES FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENT CHOICE.**

**THE NOVEL NEEDS TO BE FICTION.**

**IF YOU NEED HELP SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE NOVEL, PLEASE READ BOOK REVIEWS ON GOOGLE, AMAZON, BARNES & NOBLE, ETC. OR VISIT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.** Reviews often offer grade level or age ranges. In addition a Lexile Score can be used. The average 8<sup>th</sup> grader is approximately 800-1100 in range.

Students are NOT required to purchase new copies of the books, but it will be beneficial if they have the books with them in class.

The Homewood Public Library and the Teen Librarian, Ms. Judith Wright, are valuable resources for students who need assistance selecting a novel to read for the summer.



**PART 2:**  
**THE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO  
PREPARE FOR AN IN-CLASS ASSESSMENT  
UPON RETURN TO SCHOOL.**

- Students will report to class on the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, having read ONE book of choice on their reading level.
- The **SUMMER READING GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS** will allow readers to take notes and record their thoughts to better help them remember what happened in the novel. The graphic organizers will be useful resources to have as we begin our class activities and assessments.

You will complete graphic organizers on...

- 1. PLOT**
- 2. SETTING**
- 3. THEME**
- 4. CHARACTERIZATION**

- The graphic organizers will be posted on the Homewood Middle School website.

**The first few weeks of English class will include the following assignments and assessments:**

- Small group and whole class discussions with others who read the same books
- Review and re-teaching of literary and story elements
- Introduction of literary and story elements from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade learning targets
- Introduction to citing and supporting analysis with appropriate passages from the text
- Culminating assessment

We are looking forward to a great year.

Happy Reading!

HMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teachers