

June 8, 2017

Dear Middle School Parents,

Although school is out for the summer, it is important that all students maintain their reading skills. Reading is the one skill that plays a critical role in all academic subjects. Successful students are competent readers. Although fiction is the source of most students' reading pleasure, it is nonfiction which will make up the majority of the required reading throughout their academic careers.

To help students maintain and sharpen reading skills, we are requiring each student to read at least one book from the following lists (according to grade level) during the break. The students will be given an assignment on this novel when they return to school in the fall. We are encouraging sixth and seventh grade students to keep a running book log and read at least one book from the list, plus two others of different genres. Reading logs will be turned into Ms. Schuler on the first day of school.

The assignment will be centered on the question: ***What is your responsibility to those around you?*** The students will formulate an answer to this question based on the characters, plot, and theme of the novel they choose to read in class.

<p>6th Grade:</p> <p><i>Fish in a Tree</i> by Lynda Mullaly Hunt</p> <p><i>Wonder</i> by R. J. Palacio</p> <p><i>The Wild Robot</i> by Peter Brown</p> <p><i>Out of My Mind</i> by Sharon Draper</p> <p><i>Wilder Boys</i> by Brandon Walls</p>	<p>7th and 8th Grades:</p> <p><i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Pak</p> <p><i>Lincoln's Grave Robbers</i> by Steven Sheinkin</p> <p><i>House on Mango St.</i> by Sandra Cisneros</p> <p><i>Booked</i> by Kwame Alexander</p> <p><i>One Crazy Summer</i> by Rita Williams Garcia</p>
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Students are also encouraged to access www.arbookfind.com to help in the selection of appropriate novels.

For additional reading support, please visit scholastic.com for fun summer reading activities. The Alameda Free Library also has a summer reading program that the students are encouraged to explore.

Have a wonderful summer!

Mr. Caruso and Ms. Schuler

