

May 2020

Dear Students and Parents,

Summer is finally upon us! Be sure to have fun, relax, and don't forget to read! There are so many benefits of reading over the summer, including keeping your mind sharp, increasing vocabulary, and reinforcing skills to prepare you for the upcoming school year.

UPCOMING EIGHTH GRADERS will have **TWO** student choice novels to read. Students must complete the activity assignments for the books as noted on the handout. Please choose books that you find interesting and that are at your reading level. Reading levels for most novels can be found at www.lexile.com.

There are many places to find recommendations for novels, including Google searches, your local library, asking friends, or teachers! The website [Read Brightly](#) gives some great suggestions for recent popular novels. Nonfiction books are also acceptable choices, if that is your preferred genre.

Books that have been enjoyed by many eighth graders include

Haunting Violet by Alyxandra Harvey

Death Cloud by Andrew Lane

Okay for Now by Gary Schmidt

Now Is the Time for Running by Michael Williams

Small Acts of Amazing Courage by Gloria Whelan

Any John Greene novel

Any Mike Lupica book

Due to the current social circumstances, please allow ample time for ordering books online or through the library. E-reading or digital downloaded text are also options.

Your work will be collected within the first week of the new school year. Do your best and have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Reilly

Grade 8 Reading Reading Activities

Activity 1: *For your first choice book.* Answer each question in a fully developed paragraph (total of 5 paragraphs). Use evidence as relevant/appropriate.

- 1) Which part of the story caused the most intense feelings in you? Why?
- 2) Which character can you connect with the most in your book and why? How did the author reveal this person's character traits?
- 3) Analyze how a different setting would affect the characters or plot of this story.
- 4) How does the conflict affect the characters, their actions, and their motivations?
- 5) What has the main character learned at the end of the novel, based on his or her experiences? How has he or she changed from the beginning to the end?

Activity 2: *Book #2. Dialogue.* Choose a scene in your book in which the dialogue was extremely important. Illustrate that scene on a sheet of paper. You may also do this digitally, through Google Draw, or a collage.

Activity 3: *Book #2. Reader's choice foldable.* Select 5 important events, people, themes, moods, etc (a combination is fine). Create a foldable about your 5 choices and why you included those particular pieces. This can be done digitally, using Google Slides.

Checklist:

- Read choice novel # 1
 - Activity #1: Journal

- Read choice novel #2
 - Activity #2: Illustration
 - Activity #3: Foldable