

Elementary Summer Reading Requirements

Mr. Mocarsky – is requesting that his present kindergarteners (08-09) earn a minimum of three (3) Accelerated Reading points over the summer. (Six books should be enough unless children do not pass the quizzes with 85% accuracy.) Parents may read the books to the children and when ready, use one of the options for quizzing their child found on the cover sheet.

Mrs. DuPlessis – is requesting that her present first graders (08-09) earn a minimum of three (3) AR points by independently reading books at their ZPD level over the summer. Your child's ZPD level is written on the back of your child's report card for reference. The ZPD is the zone of proximal development and is the reading level set for your child for optimal growth in reading without frustration. (Six books would be the minimum it takes unless children do not pass the quizzes with above 85% accuracy.) Mrs. D. wants you to have fun with books this summer and encourages you to read more than the minimum requirement if at all possible.

Mrs. Lacasse is requesting that her students look at and follow the reading log sheet located in their report card envelopes. On your child's reading log sheet is your child's ZPD (reading level) and targeted goal points. Check your child's report card for his/her log in and password. Happy reading!

Multi – age 4/5 are to follow the reading log sheet located in their report card envelopes. On your child's reading log sheet is your child's ZPD (reading level) and targeted goal points. Check your child's report card for his/her log in and password. Have fun reading this summer!

Middle School Summer Reading Requirements

Seventh Graders:

** Read "The Cay" by Theodore Taylor for your summer assigned reading. Please complete all three Accelerated Reader quizzes online: Literacy, Reading Practice, and Vocabulary over this book. Complete the Double-Entry Journal – (remember the sheet I passed out to you in class) and select four quotations, phrases, or sentences that you especially liked from "The Cay" and write your thoughts about the quotations, phrases, or sentences.

** Read as much as you possibly can during the summer! Reading over the summer months will improve vocabulary in writing and speaking and will also begin your school year on a positive note. Set your personal goals high and you will reap the benefits!

Eighth Graders:

** Read "Summer of My German Soldier" by Betty Greene for your summer reading assignment. Please complete all three Accelerated Reader quizzes online: Literacy, Vocabulary, and Reading Practice over this book.

** This novel will help to set the scene for an Eighth Grade Service Learning Project regarding the Spencer P.O.W. Camps, so it is extremely important that students complete the reading of "Summer of My German Soldier" before returning to school on September 8, 2009.

High School Summer Reading Requirements

ENGLISH 11: MODERN ENGLISH LITERATURE

This course begins with British literature of the Victorian period. Students

enrolled in this course in the fall must read Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, a Victorian gothic romance, during the summer months. Gothic romance, a form popularized by the Germans and widely practiced during the early Victorian period in England before being adopted by American writers like Edgar Allen Poe, deals with highly imaginary subjects, investigates the dark sides of the human mind, and has a very dark atmosphere in exotic or remote settings. All of this may be found in this short novel. While reading, pay close attention to point of view. This story is framed by a letter telling a story that has been told to him. Therefore, you are hearing this story from the first person point of view of two narrators. Can either of these narrators be trusted? Are they reliable? Did any of it ever happen or is it only the ravings of mad men? You should also pay close attention to the Victorian attitudes reflected in the novel. How are women portrayed? How is science portrayed? What appear to be the beliefs of the people during this time as it is reflected by the characters? Taking notes, or keeping a reading journal, as you read will help to review in the fall.

ENGLISH 12: WORLD LITERATURE

This course is the study of works of literature from other countries that have been translated. Students will study the differences in cultures and their themes, forms, and structures of writing. Students enrolled in this course will need to read Homer's *The Odyssey*, a classic quest of a hero from the ancient world. As students are reading they should note the belief system of ancient Greece, the qualities that are considered heroic, and the conflicts faced by the hero. How are these conflicts present in the modern world? In what form do they appear? Taking notes, or keeping a reading journal, as you read will help to review in the fall.

Advanced Placement Language and Composition

The Advanced Placement Language and Composition course is a concentration in reading and writing in the several modes and structures. Study of these modes begins with descriptive writing and the personal narrative. Each of these mode may be used exclusively, however, they are often used in a complimentary fashion.

Students enrolled in the Advanced Placement course in the fall must complete two readings and two writing assignments. **BOTH OF THESE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. THE ASSIGNMENTS DO NOT HAVE TO BE COMPLETED IN A SPECIFIC ORDER.** One of the required readings is Annie Dillard's *The Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*. This work of nonfiction records Miss Dillard's natural observations as she passes the year in Tinker Creek, Virginia. Not only does Miss Dillard make minute and detailed observations of the natural world, she also struggles to attribute meaning to these observations. In them, she hopes to find answers to her own place within the universe. As you read through the work, pay close attention to Dillard's style of writing and her purpose in writing. The writing assignment you must complete in conjunction with this reading is to make your own observation of one natural scene and, in describing it in great detail, relate this observation to some greater understanding of your place in the universe that the scene has inspired within you. This well-planned, well-written essay should include a strong thesis (though it may appear in the conclusion), should utilize sophisticated diction, figurative language, and much sensory imagery. Your audience should be able to picture the scene in his/her mind as well as you are able to view it. The recommended length for this assignment is a minimum of three pages. The second part to the reading assignment is Tim O'Brien's fictional work of realism *The Things They Carried*. In this work, O'Brien recounts the experiences of several soldiers in Vietnam during the Vietnam Conflict. Though the work is fictional, it is closely based upon the real experiences of O'Brien and his acquaintances and is, therefore, very realistic. The title work in this collection discusses more than what the soldiers carry in the literal sense. It is the metaphorical sense behind the meaning that should be closely studied. The writing assignment that accompanies O'Brien's work is to write a narrative (whether fictional or nonfiction) that describes what you and your peers will be carrying, both literally and metaphorically, when you return to school in the fall. Keep in mind that this will be a narrative, a story, and will be required to have a beginning, middle, and end. There will need to be conflict and a series of events resulting from the conflict. The conflict will need to reach a climax and have a resolution. The narrative must also include enough description to

clearly relate the scene to an audience. For this writing, you should use dialogue/diction choices appropriate to the speaker. The recommended length for this assignment is a minimum of four pages. All essays should be typed in a twelve-point common font and be double-spaced with one inch margins around. This may require overriding the presets on your word processor. The essays should have a title that relates to the subject of the work but also is creative and vague enough to pique the interest of a perspective reader. Later on in the course, your titles will be graded. Enjoy your summer break and your summer reading!!!! (That was not verbal irony) **THOSE TAKING SECOND SEMESTER CLASSES—DO NOT FORGET TO SEE THE ENGLISH TEACHER FOR AN EXAM REVIEW SHEET WHEN RETURNING TO SCHOOL. ASSESSMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE FRIDAY OF THAT WEEK.**

Summer Reading Assignments for High School English Courses

For all courses except Advanced Placement English, students will be required to read and take directed notes on one work of literature. Students will be assessed on this work upon their return to school in the fall. Those taking second semester English courses will need to see the English teacher immediately upon returning to school to receive an exam preparation handout and must take the assessment during his/her free time that week. **ALL READING EXAMS MUST BE COMPLETED BY FRIDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL.**

ENGLISH 9/10: INTRODUCTION TO FICTION

Over the summer, students enrolled in English 9/10 must read Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird*. While reading students should take note of the setting (time, place, and cultural atmosphere), the narrator, the major characters, the plot (Conflict is the most important element of the plot—Who/What is in conflict? When does the conflict reach its climax, i.e. the point at which events could possibly turn in different directions? How is the conflict resolved?), and the theme, or main idea of the narrative. What was Harper Lee trying to tell her audience through the story? Taking notes, or keeping a reading journal, as you read will help to review in the fall.

Children in grades K-4 have been introduced to and (most) have been using the accelerated reading program throughout the year. We find the skills they are learning as they use the program invaluable. We join you in wanting to see that learning continue during the summer months. We have attached a guide (by class) of summer reading requirements. Please locate your child's current teacher on this sheet and read the requirements that follow.

Again, this summer, parents can go on line to the school site and access Accelerated Reader and quiz their child(ren) right at home. You will need to enter in the username and password for your child. Your child's user name is his/her last name with first initial from his/her first name. Your child's password is his/her graduation year. For example, a child named Stephanie Smith from fourth grade would have a user name of: smiths and a password of : 2017. Another option would be to go with your child to the town library at regular visiting hours and use the computers there. The public library is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. The school library will not be available this summer. If for some reason, you do not have access to a computer, the school office would be glad to allow you and your child (by appointment only) the use of one there. Please direct any questions you have about the AR program and the quizzing process to your child's teacher though, as the public library and school office personnel are not familiar with the program

Remember, not all books are in the AR system. Books can be checked however by typing in the name of the book once you're on the site. When school reconvenes in the fall, teachers will be expecting to see that your child has met and/or has surpassed the expectation set. Good luck to all of you.

Kids, have fun reading and learning! Parents, thank you for your very necessary support during the summer months. Teachers are available at school through June 11th should you need to call with questions.