

May 18, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the end of the school year approaches, I would like to wish students and their families a wonderful summer break. The way in which you have tackled the unexpected last quarter of the school year has been a tribute to your flexibility and willingness to take learning online. As we anticipate the 2020-2021 school year, we look forward to instruction in person once again.

Summer is the perfect time to relax and enjoy a great book. We encourage all of our students to read for at least twenty minutes every day. Silent sustained reading is important to maintain comprehension, build fluency, and nurture imagination. We teachers of the RMS RELA department want to foster a love of reading in our students. Therefore, incoming 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will participate in a summer reading assignment. Students should read at least ONE book from the summer reading list near the end of the summer. These lists of books were curated by the RELA teachers and selected in order to appeal to various interests and reading levels. Students are encouraged to read any or all of the books on the list but are required to read at least one.

During the first few weeks of the 2020-2021 school year, students will complete assignment(s) with these books. Students who transfer or move to our area late in the summer will have the first three weeks to read the book and complete the associated assignment(s).

Although not required, we highly recommend that students use strategies to help them to engage in the text. Some strategies include using sticky notes to write summaries at the end of chapters, keeping a reading journal to jot down connections or impactful moments in the plot, and annotating for literary elements. Reading the same book as a family member or friend provides an opportunity to discuss the book and allows for better understanding of what is read.

Please feel free to contact me if you or your child have any questions. We cannot wait to see you, and we hope you have a fantastic summer! Keep reading!

Sincerely,

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