

June 18, 2021

Dear Incoming Eighth Grade Families,

Another school year is ending and the long days of summer lie ahead! I would like to let you know about the summer reading and math requirements for students entering the eighth grade.

Reading:

Educators are concerned about summer reading loss that takes place when children do not read over the summer. It may take a month or two for students who did not read over the summer months to get back to the level at which they were reading at the end of the previous year. Academic achievement is directly related to how much time children spend reading outside of school. This is in large part due to the fact that reading builds vocabulary and background knowledge.

Summer reading is required for all middle school students!

Incoming Eighth Grade Summer Reading requirement:

Esperanza Rising
By: Pam Muniz Ryan

There are no required assignments for you to do during the summer for your novel. However, when you return to school in September, you will have reading and writing connection assignments for you to complete in the first marking period that will cover the concepts of the novel. **Students are encouraged to take notes, highlight, and mark passages as they read the novel.** Students should be ready to explore the plot and analyze the story when they return in September. Since you will read the book in the summer, you will want to organize your thoughts. Students may use the Chapter Summary provided. **Please have the student bring a copy of the book on the first day of school!**

Novels will be used throughout the academic year. Students will be required to purchase each novel, however, the only one required for September is: Esperanza Rising. Here is the list of the other novels that will be used in the eighth grade in the upcoming academic year should you want to purchase them in advance:

The Hate You Give, by: Angie Thomas
Flowers for Algernon, by: Daniel Keys
The Diary of Anne Frank
A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens
A Tale of Two Cities, by Charles Dickens.

Math:

Middle School students will be using IXL Summer Adventures Rising Eighth Graders Program. IXL is a computer based program. The program helps students reach mastery of crucial prerequisite skills for their upcoming math classes. It provides sample problems, practice, games and immediate feedback to students. The summer assignment program for math will help students maintain their readiness for their next math class through a series of small computer based summer assignments, and catch up on some of the skills they may need for the upcoming year. Students are to follow the instructions provided on the IXL Summer Adventures packet. **Students are to complete each set of skills in the packet provided!**
Summer math is required for all middle school students!

I hope you all have a relaxing and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lipkin