

Dear New 8<sup>th</sup> Grader and Family,

We are excited to get the year started! To improve each student's reading ability and to encourage a love of life-long reading, we have implemented a Summer Reading Program. This summer each student is expected to read at least one book with the hope that many more books will be read and enjoyed. The benefits of reading are far-reaching. Students who frequently read perform at higher levels than students who do not. Studies show that reading for enjoyment is a practice that helps children increase their vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Reading is an activity that should take place throughout a person's lifetime, not just on school days.

Today, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading/language arts teachers visited 7<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms and introduced the summer reading program along with three choices of books. There are several ways to obtain one of the books listed below:

- There are a limited number of books currently available through Upper Grade Library – please use the pre-payment form below for this option
- Your local bookstore or online store
- Your local public library

Unlike last year, this is a mandatory assignment. Students should have the book read and the assignment completed on the first day of school. Expect a test on the novel the first week of school.

Pre-orders are due \_\_\_\_\_.

Please encourage your child to read and make reading part of an enjoyable summer routine. No other single activity will produce greater benefits for your child.

May you and your child have a safe, fun, and book-filled summer.

8th Grade Reading/Language Arts Teachers

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I have included money for the following book:

- Death Be Not Proud: A Memoir by John Gunther (\$10.00)
- Scribbler of Dreams by Mary Pearson (\$ 5.00)
- Travel Team by Mike Lupica (\$ 6.00)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

7<sup>th</sup> grade reading teacher \_\_\_\_\_