

Summer Reading and Writing Requirements 6th Grade

Parents and Students:

I am excited to be your English teacher next year! Please see the requirements below and be ready for your first day back in August.

In English class, students often narrate what we read. This exercise builds memory and helps students interpret literature. I encourage your family to do this at home over the summer. It is easy; all you do, as the parent, is listen and be curious. After a “chunk” of reading, have your student “narrate” what they read that day. The goal is for the student to learn to recall what they have read in their own words, practice communication, and improve memory. Additionally, narration often serves as a springboard to discuss moral issues/choices with your children. Please be curious, but do not use it as a “quiz”; it is just a way for them to “talk” the story and for you to ask questions and/or discuss.

I. REQUIRED READING:

1. **Required:** *Wonder* (R.J. Palacio)

NOTE: For this novel, be prepared to write a summary in your own words which will include the basic plot, the main character’s conflict and how it was resolved, and details about his experience. Narration to a parent will help you know your novel. This will be for a grade.

2. **Required: Pick One from the Suggested Reading List below:**

Raymie Nightingale; The Tale of Despereaux; The Tiger Rising; Because of Winn Dixie
(Kate DiCamillo)

A Wrinkle in Time (Madeleine L’Engle) {or other titles in this series}

Little House on the Prairie (Laura Ingalls Wilder) {or other titles in this series}

The City of Ember (Jeanne DuPrau) {or other titles in this series}

My Side of the Mountain (Jean Craighead George)

My Brother, Sam, is Dead (Christopher Collier and James Lincoln Collier)

NOTE: For this “choice” novel, be prepared to illustrate upon your return to school, as we did in class during exam week. Be prepared to use a meaningful quote and explain its meaning in relation to the novel. This will be for a grade.

II. WRITING ASSIGNMENT:

Major Grade-Required Writing Assignment: Write in an 8 ½ x 11 notebook of your choice, each day of the summer-IN CURSIVE ONLY. The purpose of this assignment is to practice handwriting and to get to know you as a person.

*ballpoint pen only-no gel pens-no pencils. Simply cross out – DO NOT scratch out – mistakes.

*You may write your own thoughts some of the days, but **at least 2 days of the week** must be copy work. Copy from your novel, another book/novel which you like, the bible, a primary history document, a factual article about your favorite animal, a recipe and its directions, an article about your favorite music composer, a news article, a poem, or any other written work. DO NOT copy from a digital source (social media posts, blogs, online posts, online articles, etc.)

*Required length per day is half of the page. Yes, you can do more, if you choose.

*Put the date at the top of the page for each day’s entries .

*Write in your best handwriting, at a table, where you can easily rest your arm and practice like you would write in class. Move your paper, not your arm as you travel down the page. Rest your arm to the elbow on the table. Experiment with the positioning of your paper so your hand to flow comfortably. If you forget how to form a letter, you can Google it.

See you all in August! Have a blessed and safe summer vacation.

Ms. Rhame