EIGHTH GRADE SUMMER READING

At Randolph Middle School, one of our goals is to promote and instill a love of reading, but we can't do it alone. We need your help!

As a community, there are many avenues of learning we come across during the school year. Throughout each classroom, music room, and athletic field, we see students, teachers, and parents learning together. During the school year, learning happens mainly in the school setting. During the summer months, it is extended into the home. Transitioning our students' educational developments from summer to school can be a seamless cooperation between school and parents. It is essential to continue that learning process during the summer months so the growth can continue. Reading is a fun and easy way to promote independent learning and foster a love that will enhance their inquisitive nature for years to come.

Summer reading is one of the many great ways you can get involved with your child's education. Independent reading is strongly linked to higher test scores in all subject areas. For this reason, summer reading is a no-brainer when it comes to maintaining and increasing brain power. When students read outside of school, they begin to see the importance and relevance to their world. When parents read with and around their child, it makes learning more enjoyable and approachable. So pick up a book or an e-book, a newspaper or magazine, and continue the conversation all summer long!

Summer Reading Requirements:
Required Reads:
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- One book from the Suggested Reading List
- Any book of your choice (including any from Suggested Reading List)

For the *Required Read*:
- You are asked to bring the finished book to class on the **first day of school**. There will be a brief unit and project based on the novel.

For the book from the *Suggested Reading List:*
- You are asked to write a one-page, double-spaced, *handwritten* review of the book, which details the reasons why you would or would not recommend this book to your classmates. This review should be written *immediately after finishing the book.* It is it be signed and pledged by both you and a parent. This will serve as the first writing assignment for the year and should be brought to class on the first day of school.

For the *book of your choice* (and for ALL books read over the summer, even ones that go above and beyond the Randolph requirement):

- You are asked to fill out a notecard giving the name of the book, its author, and signed and pledged by both you and a parent that you finished the book and that you had not read it before. This will be turned in on the first day of school.

EIGHTH GRADE REQUIRED READING

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Of Mice and Men (1937) creates an intimate portrait of two men facing a world marked by petty tyranny, misunderstanding, jealousy, and callousness. But though the scope is narrow, the theme is universal; a friendship and a shared dream that makes an individual's existence meaningful.

EIGHTH GRADE SUGGESTED READING

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
A Walk to Remember by Nicholas Sparks
Artemis Fowl (Series) by Eoin Colfer
Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin
Eragon by Christopher Paolini
Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes
Cuba 15 by Nancy Osa
Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
I am the Cheese by Robert Cormier
Maximum Ride (Series) by James Patterson
Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25 by Richard Paul Evans
Mort by Terry Pratchett
Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christy
Rocket Boys by Homer Hickam
Romiette and Julio by Sharon M. Draper
Stuck in Neutral by Terry Trueman
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
The Boy Who Dared by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (Series) by Douglas Adams
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer
The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury
The Maze Runner by James Dashner
Travel Team by Mike Lupica
Watership Down by Richard Adams