May 9, 2019

Dear Students,

You have worked hard all year and I know you are looking forward to some rest and relaxation; however I am hoping that some of your summer hours will be filled between the pages of a good book. I know mine will. Not only is it enjoyable, but it’s the best way to keep your mind sharp over the break. To that end, this year RLA is instituting a required summer reading program. Below are the requirements for students entering 7th and 8th grade.

**Each student must read *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes**

You may then choose **two** books from the following list:

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

*White Fang* by Jack London

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*The Light in the Forest* by Conrad Richter

*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen .

*My Brother Sam is Dead* by Monica Wyatt

**Then choose ONE of the books on the list and complete one of the following projects.**

**Each project should include a written component that totals 500-1,000 words, and should be typed or written in cursive ink. No pencil please. Written assignments will be collected and graded the first week of school. Classwork and possible quizzes during the first week will also be based on the summer reading.**

* Write a letter to the author of the book. Include all the elements of a friendly letter. Share your opinion of the book and why you feel that way, your favorite character in the book and what you like about them, your favorite part of the book and why, and questions you have about the book.
* Write an interview between you and one of the characters in the book. Write ten questions to ask the character. Then, answer each question as you think the character would respond based on the book.
* Write diary entries that a character would write that include details about the story.
* Create an illustrated timeline. Choose at least ten important events from the story. Write a description of each event, and draw and color an illustration for each event. The events should be on the timeline in the order that they occurred.

Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

Sincerely,

Mrs. McClain