Dear Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s),

I hope this letter finds you and your family well during these unprecedented times. The statement that “parents are their child’s first teacher” has never been more true. We thank you for your partnership during our distance learning. We are all in this together!

We are excited to kick off our Summer Reading Program! One of the most important gifts you can give to your child is the joy of reading! During the summer months, Shelton Public Schools participates in the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge. Please visit our district website during the month of June to read our district letter and the recommended summer reading list:

- [http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org/](http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org/)
- Then click on the Teaching & Learning tab
- Scroll down to Summer Reading Program

Your child(ren) will use the attached bookmark to record the books that are read. Please return the bookmark to your child’s Language Arts teacher by Friday, September 4, 2020. Each school will recognize summer readers with a reading celebration during the month of September! So be sure to read with your child!

Happy Reading!

Victoria White
Supervisor of Teaching & Learning- Humanities
Shelton Public Schools
Dear Students,

Shelton Intermediate School has developed a summer reading program that will support you in keeping your reading skills sharp this summer. The activity you complete will be graded when you return to school in September. We hope that you use this reading program as an opportunity to keep up the habit of daily reading.

The most important part of the summer reading program is to **READ**. Read novels, nonfiction, biographies, poetry, short stories, or plays, anything that interests you! Shelton Intermediate School participates in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge, and in June a list of suggested books will be released. You can also find great book recommendations from friends and family.

The first part of the program is to read one fiction or nonfiction book of your choice. While only one is required, you can read more to count towards the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge, and be eligible for the SIS summer reading reward, listed below. Record the **book titles** you read on the Shelton Public Schools Summer Reading Bookmark*, and keep track of the **number of books** you read. (*The bookmark will be in your LA teacher’s Google Classroom.)*

As you reflect on your reading, complete 4 responses on the attached handout. You can write about connections, an interesting part, a big idea, questions, agreeing/disagreeing, or new learning. Responses need to be supported by specific details from the text, and at least 4-5 sentences in length. The response sheet will be due no later than **Friday, September 4, 2020**. Language Arts teachers will score this as an independent practice assignment for the first marking period, so you can start off the new year with an A+!

The second part of the program is to read articles on Newsela. You can read articles from the summer reading collection or browse through the topics and pick any article of interest. **Read at least 3 articles, and take the quiz associated with each article.** The Newsela link is located on the Shelton Public Schools website under **links for students.**

Students who read **3** or more YOUNG ADULT (YA) books, read **3** or more Newsela articles and take the associated quizzes **will take part in a celebration in September with a sweet treat!**

On behalf of the Language Arts Department, let me wish you a happy and safe summer!

Sincerely,

Alison Rahn
SIS Reading Consultant
Directions: As you read, select a response symbol from the above list. Using 4-5 well-written sentences, explain what is happening in the text which caused you to respond with your selected symbol. Complete this activity using a single book.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Symbols</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C - Connection</td>
<td>? - Question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>! - Interesting</td>
<td>✓ - Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☰ - Surprising</td>
<td>❌ - Disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ - Big idea</td>
<td>- New learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

My Responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: (select one)</th>
<th>Page:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C ! ☰★? ✓ ❌💡</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Explanation:

Symbol: (select one)  Page:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: (select one)</th>
<th>Page:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C ! ☰★? ✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Explanation:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: (select one)</th>
<th>Page:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C ! ⭕️⭐❓ ✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Explanation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol: (select one)</th>
<th>Page:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C ! ⭕️⭐❓ ✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Explanation:**

**SIS Summer Reading 2020**
Write down the titles of all the books you read this summer. Return this signed bookmark and your written responses to your Language Arts teacher by: **Friday, September 4, 2020.**

1. 
2. 
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**Parent Signature:**

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**Reading is Thinking!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have a question.</th>
<th>?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I can connect to my life, a text, or the world.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I thought this was an important part.</td>
<td>★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I learned something new.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I found an interesting part.</td>
<td>!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I found a surprising part.</td>
<td>⭐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I agree with this part of the book.</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I disagree with this part of the book.</td>
<td>✖</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Imagine Your Story

**The Goose Girl by Shannon Hale**
Ani, skilled in animal speech, feels more comfortable around animals than she does around people. When she’s sent to marry a man she’s never met, Ani knows she’s in trouble. Now Ani must hide in plain sight while she works to discover her true power. | Josette Frank Award, Bank Street Award | Lexile: 870L

**Seraphina by Rachel Hartman**
When Seraphina looks around, it appears that humans and dragons can work in peace side by side, but she knows the truth. Below the surface there is tension and hostility. Seraphina will do whatever she must to hide her secret; she’s half human, half dragon. | Morris Debut Award | Lexile: 760L

**Far Far Away by Tom McNeal**
Jeremy Johnson Johnson hears the voice of Jacob Grimm. Jacob does his best to watch over Jeremy, but then, Jeremy’s friend Ginger appears to be bewitched. Nutmeg, ALA Notable | Lexile: 790L

**Beasts Made of Night by Tochi Onyebuchi**
Taj is a sin-eater. He absorbs sin-beasts that spawn from feelings of guilt. When Taj eats a sin, he’s left with not only a physical reminder, but a mental one as well. When Taj is called to eat the sin-beast of a member of the royal family, he discovers a dark conspiracy. | CSLP | Lexile: HL750L

**The Grimm Legacy by Polly Shulman**
Elizabeth’s new job is at a strange and unusual library. Instead of books, the library houses magical objects from Brother’s Grimm fairy tales. Nutmeg | Lexile: HL600L

**The Epic Crush of Genie Lo by F. C. Yee**
When Genie Lo’s hometown is attacked by Hellspawn from Chinese folklore, SAT prep takes a backseat. The fate of the Bay Area now rests in her hands and she must tap into the secret of a power she never knew she possessed. | Lexile: 720L

Retellings

**Mechanica by Betsy Cornwell**
A mechanic finds, and falls in love with her prince, and they both live happily ever after. But what is she to do when she realizes she doesn’t want a traditional happily every after? Amelia Bloomer Award | Lexile: 920L

**Sea Witch by Sarah Henning**
Alone and guilty in her small fishing town, Evie has been mourning the death of her best friend Anna. When a girl who looks a lot like Anna appears on the shore, Evie will do whatever she can to keep her new friend on two legs. Lexile: 790L

**A Curse So Dark and Lonely by Brigid Kemmerer**
Prince Rhen is cursed to repeat his eighteenth autumn over and over again waiting for a girl who can save him only by falling in love with him. Lexile: HL580L

**Heartless by Marissa Meyer**
All Catherine wants to do is open a bakeshop with her best friend, but Cath’s mother wants her to marry the King of Hearts. When Cath meets a mysterious Jester, she feels love for the first time, but doesn’t get a happily ever after. Instead, she becomes the terror of Wonderland. | Lexile: 780L

**Frogkisser! by Garth Nix**
Princess Anya is not only forced to live with her evil stepfather, but she has this unfortunate ability to break curses with the proper kiss. Anya sets off on a quest with a unique band of travelers to understand her abilities. ALA, ILA | Lexile: 840L

**Sherwood by Meagan Spooner**
Robin of Locksley is dead, but the people of Locksley still need a protector. Marian never intended to step into Robin’s shoes, but it’s time for her to become her own hero.

June 2020

Suggested summer reading compiled for the Connecticut State Department of Education
by Kymberlee Powe, Children’s and YA Consultant, Connecticut State Library.
**Fiction**

**Hurricane Child** by Kheryn Callender
Caroline's life is full of bad luck. She's bullied, sees things, and her mother left one day and didn't return. However, Caroline's luck begins to change when a new student named Kalinda arrives. | ALA
Lexile: 1010L

**The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody** by Matthew Landis
When top student Oliver is assigned to work with slacker girl Ella, he thinks he's doomed to fail his assignment on a random soldier, Private Raymond Stone from the Civil War. Ella is different from what he expected, and so is Private Stone. There's a mystery buried in Private Stone's past. | ILA
Lexile: HL580L

**Batman: Nightwalker** by Marie Lu
After a run-in with police, Bruce Wayne is forced to do community service at Arkham Asylum where he meets a brilliant girl, Madeline, and must play her game of intrigue and deception to locate the Nightwalkers who still roam free terrorizing Gotham City. Lexile: 800L

**Resistance** by Jennifer A. Nielsen
Chaya Lindner is Jewish in Nazi-occupied Poland, and hiding in plain sight. Determined to make a difference, she smuggles food, papers, and people while working as a courier. When Chaya receives chilling news, she embarks on her largest mission yet. | Lexile: 820L

**Apple in the Middle** by Dawn Quigley
Apple Starkington turned her back on her Native heritage the instant she was called an ethnic slur. When her white father turns his back on her, Apple agrees to visit the home of her deceased, Native mother. As Apple makes an array of mistakes throughout the summer of her visit, she learns about her heritage and herself. | AILA | Lexile: 760L

**Genesis Begins Again** by Alicia Williams
Genesis must overcome internalized racism that stems from hearing verbally abusive comments from people, even her own family, about her dark brown skin. She is so blinded by her insecurities that despite encouragement from her choir teacher and new friends, she can't imagine joining the talent show and performing in front of so many people. ALA, The Kirkus Prize
Lexile: 670L

**Graphic Novels**

**Wonder Woman: Warbringer** by Leigh Bardugo
Wanting only to prove herself to her warrior sisters, Diana may have ruined her chances when she breaks Amazon law to save a mortal. Lexile: 750L

**Almost American Girl** by Robin Ha
When what should have been a vacation for Robin and her mom turns into a permanent relocation from Seoul, Korea to Alabama, Robin struggles to learn the language and keep up. Lexile: 925L-1185L

**Cheshire Crossing** by Andy Weir
After returning from Wonderland, Neverland, and Oz, our three heroines, who meet at a boarding school for girls, must learn to harness their magical powers that can take them from universe to universe. | Lexile: 1095L-1410L

Many of the listed books were recognized as exemplary books by one or more of the following organizations: American Library Association (ALA), Children's Literature & Reading and Special Interest Group (CL/R SIG), Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), American Indian Library Association (AILA), International Literacy Association (ILA), National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), American Association of the Advancement of Science (AAAS), United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY). Other awards as noted.
The Book of Blood: From Legends and Leeches to Vampires and Veins
by H. P. Newquist
Take a deep dive into the world of blood. Learn of vampires, plagues, ancient history, and modern science. | NSTA | Lexile: 850L-1155L

It’s Trevor Noah: Born a Crime; Stories from a South African Childhood; Young Readers Edition
by Trevor Noah
Noah discusses growing up as a mixed-race child in South Africa during a time when his existence was illegal. His memoir mixes drama, comedy, and tragedy to explain the day-to-day challenges he surmounted, creating a promising future for himself. | Lexile: 780L

For Every One by Jason Reynolds
Reynolds presents us with a book of letters, poems, and dreams for everyone. While some of Reynold’s dreams have been realized, others are still on the horizon. | NCSS | Lexile: 980L

Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time by Tanya Lee Stone
Inspired by the documentary, Girl Rising, this book profiles nine girls and the barriers to their education. Lexile:1050L

Popular: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek by Maya Van Wagenen
Van Wagenen recounts the eighth grade when she followed a 1950s popularity guide. | ALA | Lexile: 730L

Book Series
- An Ember in the Ashes by Sabaa Tahir
- Divergent by Veronica Roth
- Insignia by S.J. Kincaid
- Legend by Marie Lu
- Ranger’s Apprentice by John Flanagan
- Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard
- Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater
- The Lunar Chronicles by Marissa Meyer
- The Princess Diaries by Meg Cabot
- Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

Nutmeg Award Nominees
Find the Nutmeg lists at https://www.nutmegaward.org/.

June 2020
Classics and Popular Titles

City of Orphans by Avi
In 1893 New York, thirteen-year-old Maks, a newsboy, teams up with Willa, a homeless girl, to clear his older sister, Emma, from charges that she stole from the brand new Waldorf Hotel, where she works. Includes historical notes. | Lexile: 570L

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis
In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family’s freedom. | Lexile: 980L

Standing Against the Wind by Traci L. Jones
As she tries to escape her poor Chicago neighborhood by winning a scholarship to a prestigious boarding school, shy and studious eighth-grader Patrice discovers that she has more options in life than she previously realized. | Lexile: 780L

The Giver by Lois Lowry
Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community, and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives. | Lexile: 760L

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, while learning to survive his parents’ divorce. | Lexile: 1020L

The River Between Us by Richard Peck
During the early days of the Civil War, two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to St. Louis by steamboat, are taken in by the Pruitt family during a lengthy stopover in Illinois. | Lexile: 740L

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever. | Lexile: 590L

Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind by Suzanne Fisher Staples
When young Shabanu, the daughter of a nomad in the Cholistan Desert of present-day Pakistan, is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family, she must either accept the decision as is the custom, or risk the consequences of defying her father’s wishes. | Lexile: 970L

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
A black family living in the South during the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination, which their children don’t understand. | Lexile: 920L

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien
Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return. | Lexile: 1000L

Howl’s Moving Castle by Diana Wynne Jones
In a land that is considered to be a misfortune, Sophie, the eldest of three sisters, is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice until a witch turns her into an old woman and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl. | Lexile: 800L

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
This historical novel narrated by the male voice, Death, tells the story of Liesel, a young German girl coming of age in Nazi Germany during World War II, and her foster family. | Lexile: 730L