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OUR CHILDREN, OUR SCHOOL, OUR FUTURE

Mahopac Middle School English Language Arts Department

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

In support of the academic shifts taking place within the Common Core State Standards in New York, the Mahopac Middle School English Language Arts Department is continuing its summer reading plan to support the Middle School literacy curriculum. Over the summer months all matriculated students, grades six, seven, and eight, will be required to read an assigned book. The books were chosen for relevancy to the respective grade level, and they address issues and themes which will be a center of focus during the school year in English and/or other content areas. They will help facilitate verbal development, maintain literacy skills and serve to optimize student preparation from the very first day of school in September.

We strongly recommend students and their families enjoy the books together; read aloud to one another, discuss the ideas, events, characters met, and spend some pleasant moments in the worlds these authors create.

The following list has been distributed to the Mahopac Public Library for your convenience. These books can also be obtained at local bookstores and through online shopping sites that sell books.

Incoming sixth graders must choose **one** of the following books:

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen

The Red Pyramid by Rick Riordan

Incoming seventh graders must choose **one** of the following books:

My Brother Sam is Dead by James Lincoln Collier

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare

Incoming eighth graders must choose **one** of the following books:

Snow Bound by Harry Mazer

That Was Then, This Is Now by S.E. Hinton

All incoming *sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students* should be prepared to participate in class discussions and/or group activities related to their assigned book upon return to school in September. These books serve as the focus of English instruction during the opening days of the 2018-2019 school year. Students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of these books during the first weeks of school via reading and writing assessments. This literature will also serve as a foundation for a number of assignments throughout the year. As an aid for recollection and comprehension, our English Language Arts Department has attached a suggested summer reading outline; *it is strongly suggested that students have this outline completed when returning to school.*

Reading is a pleasurable and life-long activity that educates, entertains and enriches the lives of all who participate; join us in making Mahopac Middle School a haven for avid readers.

Sincerely,

The Mahopac Middle School English Department

Mahopac Middle School

Suggested Summer Reading Outline

Name _____

Grade _____

Title of book: _____ (underline title)

Author: _____

Setting (where and when the story takes place):

Theme-The overall message the author is conveying to the reader. Answer after completing the novel.

List the main characters with a brief description of each:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Identify the Conflict (*External-a struggle between opposing forces, i.e., person versus person, person versus society/group; Internal-a struggle inside the character's mind*)

Conflict 1

Conflict 2

**Write a summary for each chapter. (who, what, when, where, why, and how-look for conflicts)
Not every chapter will cover all 5 W's and how.**

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Chapter 5

Chapter 6

Chapter 7

Chapter 8

Chapter 9

Chapter 10

Chapter 11

Chapter 12

Chapter 13

Chapter 14

Chapter 15

Chapter 16

Chapter 17

Chapter 18

Chapter 19

Chapter 20

Chapter 21

Chapter 22

More chapters...Use the same format!