Dear Families,

Studies show that children who do not read during summer break regress as much as 2 months of reading performance. If this continues throughout elementary school, by the time these children enter middle school, they may be as much as 2 1/2 years behind. For this reason, it is imperative that you set aside time for your child/children to read daily.

In order to help your child/children to continue to make reading progress, we’re providing the attached summer reading list.

Your child/children must do the following:

- Read for at least 30 minutes daily
- Select at least 2 books from the list
- 1 of the books must be the assigned book
- 1 of the books can be a free choice
- Complete the response to literature based on the assigned book

Let’s work together to reduce or prevent the summer slide and promote reading growth!

Stronger Together,

Grade 8 Team
• Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai (Required)

• Omnivores Dilemma by Michael Pollan

• The Giver by Lois Lowry

• Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt

• The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis

• Students on Strike: Jim Crow, Civil rights, Brown, and Me by John A. Stokes

• Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse

• The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis

• Crash by Jerry Spinelli

• Wringer by Jerry Spinelli

• Elijah of Buxton
  By Christopher Paul Curtis

• Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights
  by James Haskins  Illustrator Benny Andrews
Response to Literature

Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai, begins in 1975 on Tet, the Lunar New Year. Hà, the novel’s ten-year-old protagonist and narrator, lives with her mother and three older brothers in Saigon, South Vietnam.

After reading the book, use details from the book to determine and describe one of the novel’s major themes.

In your response be sure to:

• State the theme
• Discuss the conflicts and obstacles the protagonist of the story, Hà, faces and how she responded to them
• Describe how she transforms over the course of the novel and what she learns
• Supportive details, through which the theme is conveyed, to support your response