



May 2009

Dear 7th Grade Parent/Guardian,

With the end of the school year quickly upon us, we are making plans for summer vacation activities. However, while the summer months are a welcome opportunity for fun and relaxation for all, the break from academic activities often causes students to experience a lag in learning upon returning to school in the fall.

In an effort to lessen this effect, ACES is requiring incoming sixth, seventh, and eighth graders to read books from the attached reading list. Credit will be awarded for all accomplished assignments. This program aims to help reduce the lag in academics by providing incentives for students to read over the summer.

Students must read three (3) age-appropriate books from the list (on the back of this letter) over the summer vacation and write a short summary, including a description of the characters, the setting (time and place) of the story, explanation of the plot (including conflict and theme), and a personal reaction to what they like or dislike about the book. Each report must be written in pen and in cursive OR typed (double space, 12-point Times New Roman font only). Students must put their full name and grade on the top of each assignment.

We hope that you will encourage your child to read during the summer months. Please look over your child's reading list and remind your child that reading is important, interactive, and fun! We hope that you will join us in this important effort and assist your child in these summer reading activities.

Thank you.

Mandi Eizenbaum
Middle School Language Arts
Team Leader

Suggested Summer Reading List
Entering 7th grade

1. *Phoenix Rising* - Karen Hesse
2. *The Outsiders* - S.E. Hinton
3. *The Lottery Rose* - Irene Hunt
4. *The Crossing* - Gary Paulsen
5. *Tiger Eyes* - Judy Blume
6. *The Good Earth* - Pearl Buck
7. *I am the Cheese* - Robert Cormier
8. *Freak the Mighty* - W.R. Philbrick
9. *Where the Red Fern Grows* - Wilson Rowls
10. *The True Confession of Charlotte Doyle* - Avi
11. *The House on Mango Street* - Sandra Cisneros
12. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh* - Robert O' Brien

**Please, do not read books that are not on this recommended/suggested reading list!!!!