June 2018

Dear Incoming Eighth Graders,

Summer is here, and with summer comes leisure time to read and enjoy good books! During the year, we tend to become very busy in our daily lives. Hopefully you will have some much deserved down time this summer vacation. Your next year's English teacher, however, would like you to continue to read and think critically.

Each of you must read **at least three books** this summer. In eighth grade, one book is required for English class, one is required for History class, and one is the teacher recommended book. You must read *Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson, *The Long Road to Gettysburg* by Jim Murphy, and your choice of the following:

Teacher Recommended Text (pick one)
How to Disappear by Sharon Huss Roat (with Ms. Caldwell)
A Night to Remember by Walter Lord (with Mr. Goodwin)
War Horse by Michael Morpurgo (with Mrs. Harrington)
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys (with Mr. Williamson)

Open to incoming 7th and 8th graders only:
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon **(**with Mrs.Chamas)*

If you are an international student in ELL, you'll read *Gettysburg* by Josh Gregory instead of *The Long Road to Gettysburg*. There is a separate assignment online for you to complete.

You will be asked to complete the two specific sets of reflection questions. This written documentation will serve as focus points for class discussions in the beginning of the school year in the fall. These forms are available online. Go to: http://www.applewildlibrary.org. Nothing written is required for the third teacher recommended book.

Please keep in mind that our goal for you is to become fluent and critical readers. To listen to an audiobook, or to watch a movie version of the work may be meaningful and enjoyable, but does not substitute for the actual reading of the book.

Please bring your written responses and books to your first classes next fall. Have a wonderful summer, and happy reading!

Sincerely,
Miss Caldwell, English Department Chair