

St. Raymond Elementary School

June 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians/and Students

As summer approaches, we don't want you to forget about the importance of reading over the break!

We have selected a required title for each grade that is listed as a trade book for Unit 1 in our reading program. **Students in each grade are required to read the title for their grade level.** While there is no book report due, it is important that they arrive in September ready to discuss what they have read.

The required texts for Grades 6-8 are:

Grade 6 - *The Young Landlords* by Walter Dean Myers

Grade 7 - *Ribbons* by Laurence Yep

Grade 8 - *Rules of the Road* by Joan Bauer

Each of these books will help students begin to answer one of the essential questions for each grade level. The essential questions are as follows:

Grade 6 - What are the challenges and triumphs of growing up?

Grade 7 - What can one generation learn from another?

Grade 8 - What are some milestones on the path to growing up?

If you are looking for additional titles for your summer reading, please see the reverse of this letter. We encourage all students to read 3-4 books in addition to their required title. Reading over the summer at a leisurely pace will help students increase their academic focus, build their vocabulary and avoid the summer slide!

Enjoy your summer and don't forget to read every day!

Sincerely,

Middle School Teachers of Grades 6, 7, and 8

Other suggested titles

Grade 6

The Secret Garden - Frances Hodgson Burnett

Bud, Not Buddy - Christopher Paul Curtis

The Jungle Book - Rudyard Kipling

Where the Red Fern Grows - Wilson Rawls

A Wrinkle in Time - Madeleine L'Engle

Anything but Typical - Nora Raleigh Baskin

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - Roald Dahl

The House of Dies Drear - Virginia Hamilton

Maniac Magee - Jerry Spinelli

Grade 7

Stand Tall - Joan Bauer

Crater - Homer Hickam

James and the Giant Peach - Roald Dahl

Hush - Jacqueline Woodson

The Cay - Theodore Taylor

Hatchet - Gary Paulsen

Hoot - Carl Hiaasen

No Promises in the Wind - Irene Hunt

Letters from Rifka - Karen Hesse

The Clay Marble - Minfong Ho

Grade 8

The House on Mango Street - Sandra Cisneros

All Quiet on the Western Front - Erich Maria Remarque

The Devil's Arithmetic - Jane Yolen

Night - Elie Wiesel

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry - Mildred Taylor

Farewell to Manzanar - Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston

Ender's Game - Orson Scott Card

The Time Machine - H.G. Wells

Boy: Tales of Childhood - Roald Dahl