

Hello soon-to-be-6th Graders,

Welcome to middle school and happy summer!!!! Let's celebrate with some reading!

I am confident that every single one of you has grown and learned much this school year. The last thing we want to take place is for you to lose that growth. According to study.com, reading over the summer will help you retain learning and keep critical thinking skills needed for the next school year. Reading over the summer can give growth in reading proficiency, and can increase your progress in vocabulary, spelling, AND math. All of these things will help your transition into 6th grade in August, giving you the opportunity for higher success. In the article "The importance of reading over the summer holidays", reading over the summer is equated to doing physical exercise. We exercise to keep our bodies healthy and strong. We read to keep our brains active and healthy as well. Therefore, you have summer reading ... YAY!!!

Okay, okay, maybe some of you are not that excited, but it's going to be alright. If you give it a chance, you may even like one of the books you read.

Your assignment:

- Read the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar**
- List what you believe are the five most important events of the novel and explain in 1 sentence why that event is the most important.** This can be done on a piece of paper or written digitally that you print out. You will need to bring a physical copy the first full week of school.
- Read a 2nd book of your choice. Any book, informational, fiction, or graphic novel, as long as it is around an upper elementary/middle school level book and parent approved.
- OPTIONAL** - When you are finished reading the book: Have a family movie night with popcorn and your favorite treats and watch the movie. Come to school ready to talk about which was better and why? How were they the same and/or different?

The book *Holes* will be the novel we start the year off with, reviewing and learning standards and skills. We will not be reading the novel in class but will be working with the novel as a whole. It is imperative, super important, that you read it over the summer so you start off the year strong and are able to participate in and complete all assignments and assessments. You can check the book out from the library, buy your own copy, borrow a copy from someone, or read it on Kindle or a similar app.

I will be checking my email, so please feel free to email me with any questions you may have.
Email: eessig@desertchristianacademy.org

Happy reading and have a great summer! See you in August.



Middle School English
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Hello 6th grade parents,

Welcome to middle school! It's going to be a great time. I am looking forward to getting to know your child next year.

I have given your child a letter from me about summer reading. Ask them to see it and read the letter! And, read the novel with them. It's a great story. In the letter, I explain the importance of reading over the summer. I know this will be a struggle for some. Please do what you can to help your child read the novel *Holes* at home over the summer. We will be starting the school year off with this novel: completing assignments, having conversations, and taking assessments. They will experience more success at the start of the year if they have read the book.

You can check the book out from the library, buy your own copy, borrow a copy from someone, or read it on Kindle or a similar app.

Below is the summer reading assignment. Please note - **The 2nd book is mandatory, BUT if you recognize that a 2nd book is not doable for your child, feel free to just focus on *Holes*. If you need a teacher to take the heat for more reading, I'll take it.**

The assignment for incoming 6th graders:

- Read the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar**
- List what you believe are the five most important events of the novel and explain why they are the most important.** This can be done on a piece of paper or written digitally that you print out. You will need to bring a physical copy the first full week of school.
- Read a 2nd book of your choice. Any book, informational or fiction or graphic novel, as long as it is around an upper elementary/middle school level book and parent approved.
- OPTIONAL** - When you are finished reading the book: Have a family movie night with popcorn and your favorite treats and watch the movie. Come to school ready to talk about which was better and why? How were they the same and/or different?

I will be checking my email, so please feel free to email me with any questions you may have.

Again, welcome to middle school! I love middle school. It's a wild ride but definitely a fun one. Embrace it and enjoy your human before the middle school "stuff" begins and they grow up even more.

Mrs. Essig

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