

June 2019

Dear Rising 6th Grade Student:

First, let me officially welcome you to Middle School English! Ok, now that you are a middle school student, in order to maintain and improve your reading skills, you will be required to read **FOUR** (4) books over the summer and to respond to them in several different EASY ways. This summer you will have ONE REQUIRED book to read, plus THREE BOOKS of your choice.

The required book is *Journey* by Patricia MacLachlan. You can get the book from your local library, any bookstore, or online. Just please note that YOU WILL NEED TO BRING THE BOOK WITH YOU at the beginning of school! You should read this book carefully. There will be both a discussion and a follow-up quiz on the book when we return to school.

Writing Requirements:

1. Keep a list of ALL the books you read this summer, and turn this list in with your assignments. Put a * by any books you *especially* like and think I should read, too!
2. In *Journey*, the main character, Journey, tries to learn more about his family through pieces of old photographs. At the same time, he explores his current world through photographs he takes with a camera he is given. Explore *your world* by making a photo journal of the important people, places, and things in *your* life. Add captions to your photo journal so your reader (that would be ME!) gets an idea of why these people, places, and things are important to you. Be creative and have fun with this project!
3. The THREE BOOKS OF YOUR CHOICE must be on your reading level (no skimming by with easy-reader books)! After reading the three books of your choice, please write me a LETTER (only one letter for all three books) in which you explain WHY YOU CHOSE the three books that you read, why you either loved or hated them, and whether you would recommend any or all of them. The books may be by individual authors or they may all be in a series (like *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* or *Hunger Games* or *Divergent* series)

This assignment, plus the list of books you read, is **due the first week of English class**. This will be your first literature grade of the year!

Happy Summer! Happy Reading! - Mrs. Watkins