

Dear Gibbsboro School families,

A goal of the Gibbsboro School Language Arts teachers is to foster a love of reading and to create lifelong readers. The summer months provide an opportunity to extend and enrich your child's reading experiences and prevent the loss of reading skills. Consider the following facts about reading:

Teachers typically spend between 4 to 6 weeks re-teaching material students have forgotten over the summer. (Lasting Consequences of the Summer Learning Gap, Karl Alexander, Doris Entwistle, Linda Steffel Olson, April 2007.)

Children who read four or more books over the summer fare better on reading-comprehension tests in the fall than their peers who read one or no books over the summer. (Summer Reading and the Ethnic Achievement Gap, Jimmy Kim, Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk, 2004.) Reading as a leisure activity is the best predictor of comprehension, vocabulary and reading speed.(The Power of Reading, Stephen Krashen, Libraries Unlimited, 1993.)

We hope that our students will read many books over the summer, but this summer we are requiring each grade to read **ONE** book from the lists below.

- Rising sixth grade list:
 - Fiction:
 - Restart by Gordon Korman
 - Stargazing by Jen Wang
 - What Lane? By Torrey Maldonado
 - Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
 - Front Desk by Kelly Yang
 - Crossover by Kwame Alexander

- Rising seventh grade list:
 - Fiction:
 - [*Ghost* by Jason Reynolds](#)
 - [*Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz](#)
 - [*Counting by 7's* by Holly Goldberg Sloan](#)
 - Non-fiction
 - [*A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park](#)
 - [*Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town* by Warren St. John](#)

- Rising eighth grade list:
 - Fiction:
 - [*Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick](#)
 - [*One of Us is Lying* by Karen M. McManus](#)
 - [*Scythe* by Neal Shusterman](#)
 - [*Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevado](#)

- Non-fiction

- [*I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai](#)
- [*They Cage the Animals at Night* by Jennings Michael Burch](#)

Enjoy your summer and happy reading! If you have any questions, we can be reached at the following emails:

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Sincerely,

The Gibbsboro Junior High ELA team