

June 1, 2009

Dear Students,

This summer you are **required** to read **two** of the books listed for your grade. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* is **mandatory** for all seventh graders and will be addressed by your English teacher during the first few weeks of school. For the second title, choose a book from the choices listed below. You must also complete one project for **each** title; **you will turn in two projects to your English teacher in September.**

SEVENTH GRADE:

Mandatory Selection:

The Watsons go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

Student Choice: (one of the following books)

Arilla Sun Down by Virginia Hamilton

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson

Forged by Fire by Sharon Draper

Locomotion by Jaqueline Woodson

Souder by William H. Armstrong

In order to demonstrate understanding of the reading material, complete one of the following projects for **each** book you read:

1. **Diorama**-create a scene from your book in a shoe box, and write 2 paragraphs explaining the scene and why you selected it
2. **Comic Strip**-draw a comic strip showing the beginning, middle, and end of the book-each block should have a caption explaining the drawing
3. **Poster**-design a poster advertising your book for sale
-should include information about the story, the author, the characters, and illustrate a scene from the book
4. **Diary**-create a diary with 5 entries describing the story from the point of view of the main character
5. **Song(s)**-write a song (or rap) to go with the story OR create a 10-song playlist that relates to the book, with an explanation of how the songs connect to the story

This assignment is due by September 18, 2009 and should be turned in to your English teacher. It will count as your first project grade of the year.

Sincerely,

Penn Wood Middle School English Teachers
Mrs. Watson, Literacy Coach
Mr. Wilson, Principal

June 1, 2009

Dear Students,

This summer you are **required** to read **two** of the books listed for your grade. *Hoops* is **mandatory** for all eighth graders and will be addressed by your English teacher during the first few weeks of school. For the second title, choose a book from the choices listed below. You must also complete one project for **each** title; **you will turn in two projects to your English teacher in September.**

EIGHTH GRADE:

Mandatory Selection:

Hoops by Walter Dean Myers

Student Choice: (one of the following books)

Call of the Wild by Jack London

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleishman

Night by Elie Weisel

Witness by Karen Hesse

In order to demonstrate understanding of the reading material, complete one of the following projects for **each** book you read:

1. **Diorama**-create a scene from your book in a shoe box, and write 2 paragraphs explaining the scene and why you selected it
2. **Comic Strip**-draw a comic strip showing the beginning, middle, and end of the book-each block should have a caption explaining the drawing
3. **Poster**-design a poster advertising your book for sale
-should include information about the story, the author, the characters, and illustrate a scene from the book
4. **Diary**-create a diary with 5 entries describing the story from the point of view of the main character
5. **Song(s)**-write a song (or rap) to go with the story OR create a 10-song playlist that relates to the book, with an explanation of how the songs connect to the story

This assignment is due by September 18, 2009 and should be turned in to your English teacher. It will count as your first project grade of the year.

Sincerely,

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Mrs. Watson, Literacy Coach
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