June 2023

Dear Rye Middle School Students, Parents, and Guardians:

Welcome to the sixth grade! To celebrate the power of literature and to create a stronger middle school community, all students entering sixth grade will be required to read at least two (2) books this summer. The goal of our reading program is to provide both students and teachers an opportunity to discuss literature and to create an atmosphere that will foster a love of reading. Students entering Grade 6 may select their own literature for their summer reading. Please follow these guidelines:

- The books should be on students' "best fit" level.
- The books should be literature the student has not previously read.

We encourage the guidance of a parent or other adult family member in the selection of the summer reading novels. Literature selections may be either fiction or nonfiction. We include resources below to help you find amazing books to read. We also recommend a few favorites, but please understand that the titles are just some ideas for reading.

During early September, sixth graders will have the opportunity to discuss their summer reading choices in class. Students will showcase understanding of their summer reading novels through group discussions and creative activities focusing on each novel's content. In order to help students feel confident and prepared for our classwork, they should take some notes on each reading selection. Notes on the books should focus on the following aspects:

- Information on the main character(s), and topics
- Setting (time and place)
- The main problem (conflict) of the story and key events
- The solution to the problem
- The life lesson the author is trying to teach (theme)

We wish you a summer of happy reading!

Grade 6 Language Arts teachers

Resources for Selecting Summer Reading Books:

<u>The Rye Free Reading Room</u>:

Our local library offers book suggestions, and exciting teen programs. Students should log their reading on the library's READsquared app to earn prizes and share book reviews. <u>Click here</u> for their summer reading website.



<u>New York Times Bestseller Lists (for young adult books and middle grade book selections)</u> Thousands of retailers report unit sales to generate these weekly lists by one of our nation's top newspapers.



<u>6th Grade ELA Teacher Recommendations</u>: All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook by Leslie Connor, Rain Reign by Ann Martin, The Kingdom Keepers by Ridley Pearson