

WOODLAND PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

853 McBride Avenue, Woodland Park, New Jersey 07424

June 10, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The intent of summer reading is to encourage the habit of lifelong reading. Summer is a great time to explore new authors and topics! Research tells us that students need to read during the summer to maintain their independent reading levels. Students are encouraged to read all different genres and forms of written expression including newspapers, magazines, fiction, historical fiction, biographies, non-fiction and poetry. There is no limit on what a student can read this summer---**Just Read!**



At school, your middle schooler learned about our summer reading assignment from his/her Language Arts teacher. **Incoming Memorial students** will read one required book from a short list and one free choice book. Students will complete a written assignment for one book. For this task, students will record notes in the form of a "Double Entry Journal."

- ❑ *Students will select their first novel from the list assigned to their grade's theme.*
- ❑ *Then students will complete annotations in their Double Entry Journal notes as they read. These will be scored using a rubric. More specific details and examples will be shared on the Summer Reading links on the school website.*
- ❑ *Students will select a second text (ANY GENRE) and read for pleasure. No written assignment is required. During the first week back, be ready to do a Booktalk.*

The completed written assignment is due to your Language Arts teacher on Monday, September 9th. The Double Entry Journal assignment will be counted as a quiz grade for the first marking period.

In addition, Memorial Middle School students are encouraged to join the Alfred H. Baumann Public Library's summer reading program, *A Universe of Stories*. Many exciting incentives are planned for students who participate! **We will celebrate with students who read and log more than the required two books this summer!**

Students may purchase their own books or borrow from the public library. **Please visit the school website at www.wpschools.org. Click on *Summer Reading*.** This will give you access to print the assignment, directions, and suggested book lists. We appreciate your support!

Educationally yours,

Elba Alves Castrovinci
Supervisor of Language Arts

MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING 2019



Double Entry Journal Directions:

- On a separate paper, create a two column chart for the summer reading selection from the list provided for your grade.
- Label the left hand "Citation." In the "Citation" column, record the page number and cite the quoted passages that seem significant to the book's central theme or situation. Citations can be quotes or narration from the text. Include citations from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel.
- Then label the other column "Significance." In this column, record your thoughts or reactions about the citation in your OWN words. Please see the example below.
- Use the examples and resources to assist you.
- Format for Quiz Grade:**
 - ✓ Must include quotes that span the entire book.
 - ✓ This will be graded based on the number of entries as well as the depth and thoughtfulness of your insight. (See Rubric)

Booktalk

- A "booktalk" is a conversation with the intent to convince someone to read a book. The "booktalker" gives the audience a glimpse of the setting, the characters, and/or the major conflict without providing the resolution. A booktalk is usually about four to six minutes long.
- No written assignment is required.
- Students will prepare in class and share their booktalk in their Language Arts classroom during the first weeks of school.

Example of a Double-Entry Journal response from the beginning of Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

Citation	Significance
<p data-bbox="235 380 771 594">"They walked back to the road. Dorothy helped him over the fence, and they started along the path of yellow brick for the Emerald City" (Baum 10).</p> <p data-bbox="235 716 771 1381">[Please note that the citation is in quotes. Although it is possible to cite dialogue, one can also cite regular narration that does not record what a character is saying. In any case, the citation should appear exactly as it appears in the text. Furthermore, the citation is followed by a parenthetical citation that includes the author's last name and the page number. We'll review MLA citation style in class, but do your best to follow this format over the summer.]</p>	<p data-bbox="808 380 1453 1444">When Dorothy, the main character, was in search of the City of Emeralds, she comes across a scarecrow. Earlier in this chapter, Dorothy noticed Scarecrow blink his eye. That's when she discovered the Scarecrow was alive. Soon after, Dorothy helps Scarecrow down from his perch, and Scarecrow explains (to Dorothy) that he fears living with a head filled with straw because he feels he will never know anything. Scarecrow joins Dorothy's quest to go to the Emerald City because Scarecrow wants to possess knowledge. It seems like all the characters are on a search for something they feel they need to be better or to be happy. This seems very important because both characters have problems, and they are hoping their problems will be solved in the Emerald City. I wonder if Dorothy and Scarecrow will find the answers they are looking for.</p>

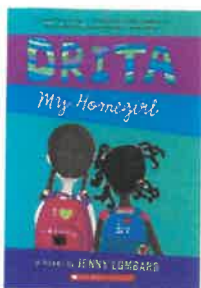
An additional resource for the Double-Entry Journal can be found at: <http://www.adlit.org/strategies/22091/>

Memorial Summer Reading Rubric

	10	8	6	4
Double Entry Journal	Student accurately and insightfully responds to the text.	Student accurately responds to the text.	Student responds to the text. Some explanations may or may not be accurate to the text.	Student does not respond to the text. OR Responses are off topic.
Quantity of Annotations/ Responses	Writes 10 or more entries.	Writes 8-9 entries.	Writes 6-7 entries.	Writes 5 or less entries.
Insight	Responses are thorough and thoughtful.	Responses are fairly thorough and thoughtful.	Some responses are incomplete or irrelevant.	Many responses are disjointed, incomplete or irrelevant.
Quality of Annotations: Comprehension	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that extends beyond the literal to the personal, with critical, evaluative responses.	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that extends beyond the literal to the personal, with some critical responses.	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that is mostly literal or personal, with few critical responses.	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that is mostly literal or personal, with no critical responses.
Thoroughness of Reading	Annotations spread out evenly across the book.	Annotations spread out mostly across the first half of the book.	Annotations focused mainly on one section of text, not evenly throughout.	Annotations from the very beginning of the book only.

Summer Reading Booklist –Incoming 5th Graders (Rising 4th Graders)

Theme: New Beginnings



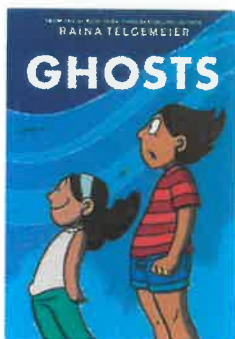
Drita, My Homegirl by Jenny Lombard

Fleeing from war-torn Kosovo, 10-year-old Drita and her family move to America with the dream of living a typical life. But with this hope comes the struggle to fit in and adapt, in a poignant story about the friendships that can overcome a cultural divide. This story deals with the budding friendship between recent Albanian refugee Drita and Maxie, an African American girl who's lost her mom.



The Kid in the Red Jacket, by Barbara Park

From the author of the bestselling *Junie B. Jones* series comes a story about fifth-grader Howard Jeeter, who is sure his life is over when his parents move their family from Arizona to Massachusetts. He does make one new friend when he moves, but it's just not the one he had in mind—it's his annoying, overly chatty 6-year-old neighbor, Molly Vera Thompson. However, she is truly a faithful friend to Howard in this clever and relatable tale. When forced to choose, will Howard opt for pals from school or Molly?



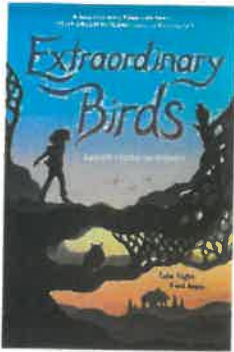
Ghosts, by Raina Telgemeier

With her signature graphic novel style, Raina Telgemeier introduces readers to Catrina, who is so bummed to be leaving her friends and moving with her family to a coastal town in Northern California. But her little sister, Maya, has cystic fibrosis, and her parents hope Bahía de la Luna's sea air will help her condition. But as the Catrina soon learns, there's more to fear about this new town than just starting a new school—there are ghosts! Maya really wants to meet one, but Catrina wants no part of it. Can she push past her fears to help her sister and possibly make some new friends in the process?



Wonder, by R.J. Palacio

August Pullman is not an ordinary ten-year-old kid. Sure, he's a huge Star Wars fan, he loves his dog, and he's got a pretty good sense of humor. But August was born with a craniofacial abnormality, a genetic defect that caused his facial features to be severely deformed. His life has never been "normal." Despite his differences, August and his parents decide to transition him from home school to private school now that he's entering fifth grade. It's the start of middle school, they reason, so everyone will be new. But August has to deal with so much more than just being new. Will he make friends? Will he decide to stay at the school? And can the people around him learn to see past his appearance? This brilliant, sensitive story, narrated not only by August, but also by his older sister, his classmates, and other kids in his life, takes an insightful look at how one person's differences can affect the lives of so many others.



Extraordinary Birds by Sandy Stark-McGinnis

December believes she is a bird. The scar on her back is where her wings will sprout, and one day soon, she will soar away. It will not matter that she has no permanent home. Her destiny is in the sky.

But then she's placed with foster mom Eleanor, a kind woman who volunteers at an animal rescue and has secrets of her own. December begins to see that her story could end a different way – but could she ever be happy down on the ground? In her arresting debut, Sandy Stark-McGinnis offers an inspiring story about family, friendship, and finding where you belong.



Lost and Found by Andrew Clements

Identical twins Ray and Jay Grayson are starting a new school in a new town, but it won't exactly be a fresh start for the boys. The sixth-graders know it won't take long for everyone to know them as "two peas in a pod, two ducks on a pond, two spoons in a drawer." But when Ray is home sick for the first day of school, Jay discovers that due to a major mix-up, the school doesn't even know Ray exists. The pair hatch a plot to see what life without a twin is like in this entertaining tale of family, friendship, and honesty.

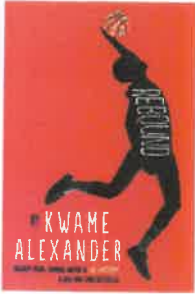
Summer Reading Booklist -Incoming 6th Graders

Theme: Challenges and Triumphs of Growing Up



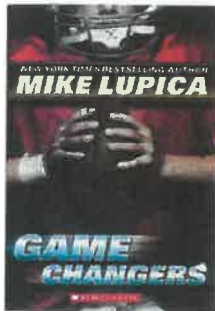
Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.



Rebound by Kwame Alexander

Before Josh and Jordan Bell were streaking up and down the court, their father was learning his own moves. In this prequel to Newbery Medal winner *The Crossover*, Chuck Bell takes center stage, as readers get a glimpse of his childhood and how he became the jazz music worshipping, basketball star his sons look up to. This novel in verse will go back in time to visit the childhood of Chuck "Da Man" Bell during one pivotal summer when young Charlie is sent to stay with his grandparents where he discovers basketball and learns more about his family's past.



Game Changers by Mike Lupica

Ben McBain is every football team's dream player. He's a jack-of-all-trades guy that can handle almost any position. When the game is on the line, Ben's number is the one being called for the final play. But Ben wants to be the starting quarterback and the one thing standing in his way is the coach's son. Shawn O'Brien looks the part. He has been groomed by his father, a former professional quarterback. But despite his size and arm strength, Shawn is struggling. Ben is torn between being a good teammate and going after his own dream. As Ben finds out, Shawn isn't the easiest person to help. And when Ben gets an unexpected opportunity, the entire game will change for the both of them.



Short by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Julia is very short for her age, but by the end of the summer run of *The Wizard of Oz*, she'll realize how big she is inside, where it counts. She hasn't ever thought of herself as a performer, but when the wonderful director of *Oz* casts her as a Munchkin, she begins to see herself in a new way. Julia becomes friendly with the poised and wise Olive--one of the adults with dwarfism who've joined the production's motley crew of Munchkins. With her deeply artistic neighbor, Mrs. Chang, Julia's own sense of self as an artist grows. Soon, she doesn't want to fade into the background--and it's a good thing, because her director has more big plans for Julia!



Tangerine by Edward Bloor

Paul Fisher sees the world from behind glasses so thick he looks like a bug-eyed alien. But he's not so blind that he can't see there are some very unusual things about his family's new home in Tangerine County, Florida. Where else does a sinkhole swallow the local school, fire burn underground for years, and lightning strike at the same time every day? The chaos is compounded by constant harassment from his football-star brother, and adjusting to life in Tangerine isn't easy for Paul--until he joins the soccer team at his middle school. With the help of his new teammates, Paul begins to discover what lies beneath the surface of his strange new hometown. He also gains the courage to face up to some secrets his family has been keeping from him for far too long. In *Tangerine*, it seems, anything is possible.



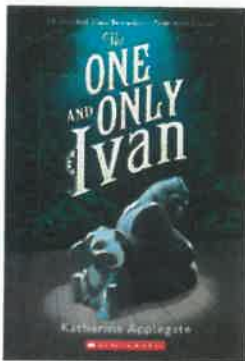
Loser by Jerry Spinelli

Just like other kids, Zinkoff rides his bike, hopes for snow days, and wants to be like his dad when he grows up. But Zinkoff also raises his hand with all the wrong answers, trips over his own feet, and falls down with laughter over a word like "Jabip."

Other kids have their own word to describe him, but Zinkoff is too busy to hear it. He doesn't know he's not like everyone else. And one winter night, Zinkoff's differences show that any name can someday become "hero." With some of his finest writing to date and great wit and humor, Jerry Spinelli creates a story about a boy's individuality surpassing the need to fit in and the genuine importance of failure. As readers follow Zinkoff from first through sixth grade, it becomes impossible not to identify with and root for him through failures and triumphs.

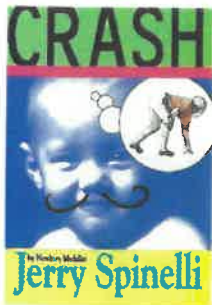
Summer Reading Booklist -Incoming 7th Graders

Theme: Empathy



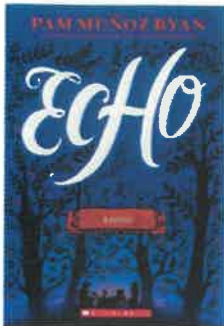
The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

Inspired by the true story of a gorilla who spent 30 years alone in a cage at an indoor zoo in a mall, this beautiful book imagines what that gorilla might have felt and said about his life. Ivan does not dwell on his memories as does his friend Stella, an elderly elephant in the cage next door. Still, he remembers his life with his family in the jungle, the death of his sister, and his early days being raised by Max, the owner of the animal show. He also has memories from his long, lonely interment with only a television, a stuffed animal, and a stray dog who sneaks into his concrete cage to sleep on his chest for company. Ivan loves to paint. He can remember making designs on his mother's back as a young ape, and now Max sells the pictures that Ivan creates each day. The custodian's daughter also loves to paint and shares her supplies with Ivan, giving him new ways to express his experiences. Yet life at the animal show is becoming increasingly distressing. Stella has an infection on her foot that Max ignores because he is low on money. When he purchases a baby elephant to revive interest in the show, both Stella and Ivan are concerned about how he is treating this gentle youngster. Encouraged by Bob, the stray dog, and inspired by Stella, Ivan begins to imagine rescuing not only the baby elephant but himself. Perhaps his painting is the key. Maybe he can use it to change the animals' lives forever.



Crash by Jerry Spinelli

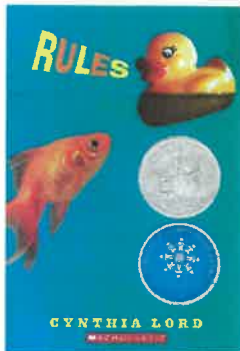
Cocky seventh-grade super-jock Crash Coogan got his nickname the day he used his first football helmet to knock his cousin Bridget flat on her backside. And he has been running over people ever since, especially Penn Webb, the dweeby, vegetarian Quaker kid who lives down the block. Through the eyes of Crash, readers get a rare glimpse into the life of a bully in this unforgettable and beloved story about stereotypes and the surprises life can bring.



Echo by Pat Muñoz Ryan

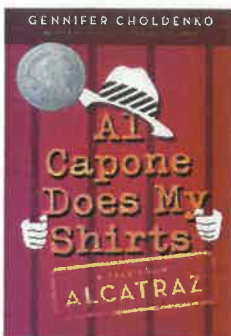
Lost and alone in the forbidden Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives, binding them by an invisible thread of destiny. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. How their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo will resound in your heart long after the last note has been

struck.



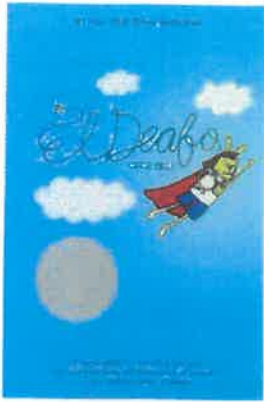
Rules by Cynthia Lord

This 2007 Newbery Honor Book is a humorous and heartwarming debut about feeling different and finding acceptance. Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules, from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public," in order to stop his embarrassing behaviors. But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a paraplegic boy, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?



Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

Moose Flannagan moves with his family to Alcatraz so his dad can work as a prison guard and his sister, Natalie, can attend a special school. But Natalie has autism, and when she's denied admittance to the school, the stark setting of Alcatraz begins to unravel the tenuous coping mechanisms Moose's family has used for dealing with her disorder. When Moose meets Piper, the cute daughter of the Warden, he knows right off she's trouble. But she's also strangely irresistible. All Moose wants to do is protect Natalie, live up to his parents' expectations, and stay out of trouble. But on Alcatraz, trouble is never very far away. Set in 1935, when guards actually lived on Alcatraz Island with their families, Choldenko's second novel brings humor to the complexities of family dynamics and illuminates the real struggle of a kid trying to free himself from the "good boy" stance he's taken his whole life.



El Deafo by Cece Bell

Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become "El Deafo, Listener for All." And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find

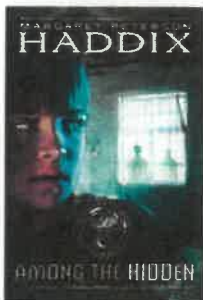
the friend she's longed for.

Summer Reading Booklist -Incoming 8th Graders **Theme: Dystopian**



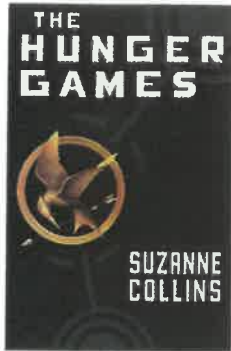
The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau

Lina and Doon live in the underground city of Ember where their ancestors fled to escape a toxic world above. Unfortunately, after so many generations underground, the lights and food supply are running low. In a world carefully controlled and monitored, Lina and Doon secretly try to decipher ancient clues that might lead to a long-forgotten way to the surface.



Among the Hidden Children by Margaret Peterson Haddix

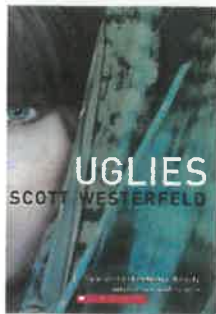
Luke is a forbidden third child which means he must live in hiding. After he sees another hidden child in a window of a nearby house, he risks everything to meet her. But will he go along with her dangerous plan to protest at the White House? And what will he do when she doesn't return?



The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Twenty-four are forced to enter. Only the winner survives. In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. Each year, the districts are forced by the Capitol to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the Hunger Games, a brutal and terrifying fight to the death – televised for all of Panem to see. Survival is second nature for sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen, who struggles to feed her mother and younger sister by secretly hunting and gathering beyond the fences of District 12. When Katniss steps in to take the place of her sister in the Hunger Games, she knows it may be her death sentence. If she is to survive, she must weigh

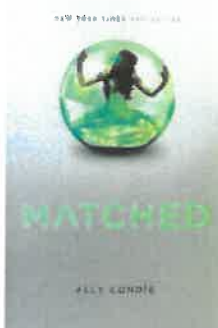
survival against humanity and life against love.



Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

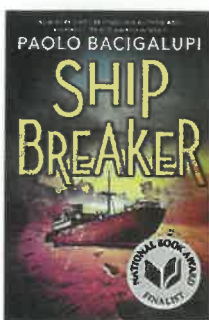
Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In just a few weeks she'll have the operation that will turn her from a repellent ugly into a stunning pretty. And as a pretty, she'll be catapulted into a high-tech paradise where her only job is to have fun.

But Tally's new friend Shay isn't sure she wants to become a pretty. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world-- and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally a choice: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. Tally's choice will change her world forever.



Matched by Ally Condie

In the Society, officials decide. Who you love. Where you work. When you die. Cassia has always trusted their choices. It's hardly any price to pay for a long life, the perfect job, the ideal mate. So when her best friend appears on the Matching screen, Cassia knows with complete certainty that he is the one...until she sees another face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black. Now Cassia is faced with impossible choices: between Xander and Ky, between the only life she's known and a path no one else has ever dared follow—between perfection and passion.



Ship Breaker by Paolo Bacigalupi

In America's Gulf Coast region, grounded oil tankers are being broken down for parts by crews of young people. Nailer, a teenage boy, works the light crew, scavenging for copper wiring just to make quota—and hopefully live to see another day. But when, by luck or by chance, he discovers an exquisite clipper ship beached during a recent hurricane, Nailer faces the most important decision of his life: Strip the ship for all it's worth or rescue its lone survivor, a beautiful and wealthy girl who could lead him to a better life....In this powerful novel, Paolo Bacigalupi delivers a thrilling, fast-paced adventure set in a vivid and raw, uncertain futur