

Summer Reading Program



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to your new 7th grade Language Arts classroom!

Attached is a list of novels from which you are to choose your summer reading books. Every future seventh grader must read one required novel (*The Last Book in the Universe* by Rodman Philbrick). There will be a test on *The Last Book in the Universe* during the first week of school. *Any students who are listed as ESE or ESOL are only required to read The Last Book in the Universe. Also, you can read The Last Book in the Universe while listening to it on tape!* All other students must also read at least one of the additional listed novels.

Our program is designed to promote the skills for effective reading and learning. A reading list and corresponding assignments can be found on the school's website, www.ssas.org. The intent of this list is to give you assistance in directing your child to some quality literature.

Books will be available at Barnes and Noble and Books-A-Million in Sarasota. The requirements are as follows:

- 6th Grade: One mandatory book and one free choice book from the list
- 7th Grade: One mandatory book and one free choice book from the list
- 8th Grade: One mandatory book and two free choice books from the list.

Upon returning from summer vacation, each child will take an assessment test on the mandatory book and be required to hand in a project on the free choice book.

Thank you,
The Language Arts' Department

Sixth Grade Moving Into Seventh Grade Requirements:

1. You will have an assessment test on the mandatory novel, *The Last Book in the Universe*, during the first week of school.
2. You will read one free choice book and complete a project about the novel. Using a poster board, create a collage of your story depicting the setting (which may include location and weather), characters (which may include clothing, hobbies, and expression), the plot, and the protagonist and antagonist. This will be collected and presented by the third day of school. On the back of the collage list each item that you put on the front and why you chose it.

Coraline by Neil Gaiman

First Name Last Name

Buttons – I put buttons on my collage because the Other Mother had button eyes.

Mandatory Novel:

Philbrick, Rodman *The Last Book in the Universe* (Science Fiction)

After an enormous earthquake destroyed most of the world, the economy dropped and everything changed. Segregation between rich and poor, physically enhanced and inferior, set in. A boy named Spaz (Osment) escapes from what he knows as home and travels to find his sister, but after finding her learns she is very ill. Spaz and his companions set out on an adventure to try and find a cure for Spaz's sister, while Spaz's old friend finishes writing the last book ever written.

Free Choice Novels:

Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game.* (Science Fiction)

Andrew "Ender" Wiggin, who spends his childhood at military school in outer space, believes he is playing computer simulated war games; in fact, he is commanding the last great fleet of Earth. This is a fantastic book for advanced readers. Hugo Award; Nebula Award

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden* (Science Fiction)

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

Klass, David. *Danger Zone* (Young Adult - Sports)

When he joins a predominantly black "Teen Dream Team" representing the United States in an international basketball tournament in Rome, Jimmy Doyle makes some unexpected discoveries about prejudice, racism, and politics.

London, Jack. *The Call of the Wild.* (Adventure - Animals)

Buck, half-St. Bernard, half-Scottish sheep dog, is stolen from his comfortable home in California and compelled first to become a sledge dog in the Alaskan Klondike and then to fight for his survival in a pack of wolves.

Verne, Jules. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.* (Science Fiction - Classic)

This is a nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and undersea world, which anticipated many of the scientific achievements of the twentieth century.

Westerfeld, Scott. *Uglies.* (Science Fiction - dystopia)

Simon Pulse, 2005. The sixteenth birthday means a body makeover in Tally's world, but Tally begins to question this procedure when she is forced to spy on a friend who does not want to transform her own body.

Some of this information was retrieved from

http://www.haishn.org/images/HAISLN_7_8_2009_Reading_List.pdf on February 23, 2010.