

SUMMER READING AND PREP FOR GRADE EIGHT

Dear Parents,

Students entering eighth grade in August have been issued a copy of *The Outsiders*, by S.E. Hinton, to read this summer. When they return to school, there will be a test on the book, as well as a variety of other assignments within the first few weeks of school. It is advisable for students to take notes as they read for reference and review.

This past year, students have been taught a number of literary and narrative elements and been given handouts on each. They are to keep these for use in eighth grade reading class. Duplicates will **not be issued**, and students have been told this a thousand times (forgive the hyperbole – quiz your child on that term!).

And last, but never least, let's talk English grammar and mechanics. I have been alarmed at the number of seventh graders who do not remember fundamentals. They will be bringing home their Simple Solutions workbooks from this year, and I have asked them to spend fifteen minutes each week doing a lesson – it is all review, and they have plenty of blank lessons left! Please support me in this quest to improve the basic skills needed for your children to become better writers.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Fields