



NEW PALTZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

196 Main Street, New Paltz, New York 12561 • Phone: (845)256-4200 • Fax: (845)256-4209 • www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us

Dr. Richard Wiesenthal
Principal

Mr. Anthony Tantillo
Assistant Principal

June 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming 7th Grade Students:

A love of reading can be nurtured outside of school in many ways. One way is for children to see that their parents value reading. Parents can promote this image by reading themselves, reading with their children, and by helping their children select reading materials which interest them. Students should be encouraged to spend about the same amount of time reading as watching television, or at least thirty minutes a day. It is suggested that parents assume active roles in helping their children to select books **appropriate to their interests, reading level, and maturity level**. Incoming 7th graders should choose titles which fit these aforementioned categories. Please make sure that your child has not read these selections before. The titles on the following pages are merely suggestions. Some are classics, some are award winners, and many are new titles that should be of high interest among this age group. Again, please help your children make these selections. Please emphasize to your son or daughter that what is most important is that these books should be enjoyable for them to read.

The assignment: your child must read at least **two** titles and complete the attached evaluation forms. Students should bring their completed work to English class during the first two weeks of school.

For your convenience, there is a supply list on the reverse side of this letter. Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

7th Grade English Teachers

(OVER)

**7th Grade Supply List
2012-2013 School Year**

Please have these supplies to start the school year. More information will follow in September. Thank you.

1. Academic Supplies:

- 2 2" 3-Ring Binder (English, science, math)**
- 3 sets of dividers**
- 2 package loose leaf paper for each school quarter (total 8-10)**
- 5 pocket folders**
- 2 composition notebooks (marble notebooks)**
- 1 spiral notebook – single subject**
- 1 scientific calculator (preferably Texas Instruments TI 30 X IIS or comparable model – costs \$10 - \$15). This will be used for 7th and 8th grade.**

2. General Supplies:

Pencil pouch

Colored pencils (2) – for science, bring 1st day, kept 1 in class, and 1 at home.

Glue Sticks

Index Cards

Highlighters

Pens (blue or black ink) and pencils

3. Specials:

- 1 large binder ring to hold index cards (foreign language)**
- 1 2" 3-ring binder**
- Sketch Pad (art class)**
- Shorts/T-shirt/Sneakers (gym)**

6th → 7th Grade Summer Reading Evaluation

Name _____

Directions: After you have finished reading the books of your choice **from the provided list**, complete this handout for *both* texts to the best of your ability. Be thorough and answer in complete sentences. Don't forget to bring this to your English class the first day of school. Use additional paper if necessary. See you in September!

Title: _____ Author: _____

Fiction or non-fiction (circle one) Genre: _____

1. In a few sentences, describe the main characters.

2. What was the plot of this story? Include the conflict(s), climax, and resolution.

3. From whose point of view was this story told? What affect did this have on the story itself?

4. Explain two major themes that were evident in this story. Why were they significant?

5. Explain your favorite part of this book.

6. What was your least favorite part of this book and why?

Name _____

Directions: After you have finished reading the books of your choice from the provided list, complete this handout for *both* texts to the best of your ability. Be thorough and answer in complete sentences. Don't forget to bring this to your English class the first day of school. Use additional paper if necessary. See you in September!

Title: _____ Author: _____

Fiction or non-fiction (circle one) Genre: _____

1. In a few sentences, describe the main characters.

2. What was the plot of this story? Include the conflict(s), climax, and resolution.

3. From whose point of view was this story told? What affect did this have on the story itself?

4. Explain two major themes that were evident in this story. Why were they significant?

5. Explain your favorite part of this book.

6. What was your least favorite part of this book and why?

SUMMER READING BOOKS

CURRENT TITLES

Author: Almond, David
Title: **Skellig**
Author: Fox, Paula
Title: **Radiance Descending**
Author: Gantos, Jack
Title: **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key**
Author: Haas, Jessie
Title: **Unbroken**
Author: Hamilton, Virginia
Title: **Bluish**
Author: Johnson, Scott
Title: **Safe at Second**
Author: Johnson, Angela
Title: **Songs of Faith**
Author: Kim, Helen S.
Title: **The Long Season of Rain**
Author: Martinez, Victor
Title: **Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida**
Author: McCaughrean, Geraldine
Title: **The Pirate's Son**
Author: Mikaelson, Ben
Title: **Petey**
Author: Smith, Roland
Title: **The Captain's Dog: My Journey
with the Lewis & Clark Tribe**
Author: Napoli, Donna Jo
Title: **Stones in Water**
Author: Napoli, Donna Jo
Title: **Spinners**
Author: Quintana, Anton
Title: **The Baboon King**, translated by John
Nieuwenhuizen
Author: Sheldon, Dyan
Title: **Confessions of a Teenage Drama
Queen**
Author: Alexie, Sherman
Title: **The Absolutely True Dairy of a
Part-Time Indian**
Author: Thomas, Rob
Title: **Rats Saw God**
Author: Bronwen Zemsler, Amy
Title: **Beyond the Mango Tree**
Author: Napoli, Donna Jo
Title: **Beast**

Author: Nasdijj
Title: **The Blood Runs Like a River
Through my Dreams-** a memoir
Author: Trueman, Terry
Title: **Stuck in Neutral**
Author: Dash, Joan
Title: **The Longitude Prize**
Author: Rennison, Louise
Title: **Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal
Snogging: Confessions of
Georgia Nicolson**
Author: Ernst, Kathleen
Title: **Retreat from Gettysburg**
Author: Smith, Roland
Title: **Peak**
Author: Lupica, Mike
Title: **Summer Ball**
Author: Anderson, Laurie Halse
Title: **Chains**

OLDER TITLES

Author: Schaefer, Jack
Title: **Shane**
Author: Tolkein, J.R.R.
Title: **The Hobbit**
Author: Duncan, Lois
Title: **I Know What you Did Last Summer**
Author: Hinton, S.E.
Title: **Tex**
Author: Strasser, Todd
Title: **The Wave**
Author: Cooper, Susan
Title: **The Grey King**; illustrated by
Michael Heslop
Author: Voigt, Cynthia
Title: **Homecoming**
Author: Bauer, Joan
Title: **Rules of the Road**
Author: Flake, Sharon G.
Title: **The Skin I'm In Jump at the Sun**
Author: Holt, Kimberly Willis
Title: **My Louisiana Sky**

Author: Haddix, Margaret
Title: **Don't You Dare Read This, Mrs. Dunphery**
Author: St. George, Judith
Title: **To See With the Heart: The Life of Sitting Bull**

OTHER WORKS: FICTION & NON-FICTION

Author: Bode, Janet
Title: **Histories of Immigrant Teens**
Author: Brooks, Bruce
Title: **The Moves Make the Man**
Author: Forbes, Elizabeth
Title: **Johnny Tremain**

Author: Jackson, Shirley
Title: **Charles**
Author: Sperry, Armstrong
Title: **Call It Courage**
Author: Zindel, Paul
Title: **The Pigman**
Author: Yolen, Jane
Title: **Favorite Folktales from Around the World**
Author: Bradbury, Ray
Title: **Fahrenheit 451**
Author: Bradbury, Ray
Title: **Martian Chronicles**