

Dear Parents and Students,

Summer is the perfect time to read some great books! Our summer reading assignments are meant to encourage our students' love of reading over the summer and to prepare them for our areas of academic focus this fall. The required reading selection will be an important part of our integrated curriculum this coming year, particularly as we renew our commitment to educating our students on appreciating and respecting the experiences of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and ethnicities. All summer reading assignments must be completed by the first day of school. Students will need to have copies of their required reading books in class beginning the first day.

Middle school students are required to read a total of two books over the summer.

All MS students must read this book:

The Unsung Hero of Birdsong, USA by Brenda Woods

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/40004363-the-unsung-hero-of-birdsong-usa>

As they read, students should pay close attention to the setting of the story and how it affects the plot. They should also think about any connections they can make between themselves and the main characters. This will be the first book we discuss together at the beginning of the school year. **There is no independent project to be completed for this book.** Work will be done in class once school starts. All students are required to have a copy of this book at school.

The second book required for summer reading is the student's choice and should not be a book he or she has previously read. There are many excellent young adult books available, including the titles recommended at the link below. The website provides a list of recommended titles appropriate for different age ranges. It is just one resource for discovering great books.

<https://www.readbrightly.com/summer-ya-books/>

Each student will need to create a project for the book he or she chooses independently (NOT for *The Unsung Hero of Birdsong, USA*). The project should tell the class all the important details about the book your student read (title, author, genre, characters, setting, plot). **All projects must be labeled with the book's title and author.** Students may choose a project idea from the list included or create their own idea! Have fun and be creative!

Happy reading this summer!