

June 10, 2020

Dear Seventh or Eighth Grader,

Welcome to your **Summer Reading Assignment**. The required class selection and the suggested reading books have been chosen to enhance next year's Social Studies (US History) curriculum.

All seventh and eighth graders are required to read *Soldier's Heart* by Gary Paulsen and to complete one of the project choices described below.

During the first two weeks of school, your reading comprehension will be assessed by your project on *Soldier's Heart*, a multiple-choice test, and a written in-class essay. This book will count for a book read for the Summer Reader Reward* and its pages for the first trimester Independent Reading assignment.

The *Soldier's Heart* project is due Friday, September 11, and will be graded on content and creativity. Project choices include:

- ◆ A series of letters from the main character to another character in the story. Minimum 7 letters. Letters should follow the friendly letter format and content should discuss the main points in the story in a way that gives a summary of the book.
- ◆ A comic strip or flip book (both large enough to be read easily) that shows the main events in the story in a way that gives a summary of the book. Minimum 10 – 12 panels/drawings.
- ◆ A scrapbook that contains mementos that might have been saved or collected by the main character to remember important events in the story. The scrapbook should contain an explanation of the memento and its relationship to the event. The memento may be real, drawn, or a picture from a magazine or the internet. Minimum 10 items which give a summary of the story and the main character's feelings about the event remembered.

***Summer Reader Reward:** Steps to complete: 1) enroll in your library's summer reading program or simply keep track of ten (or more) books that you read and have a parent or librarian sign the list; 2) books must be from reading list, young adult literature, or above reading level; 3) turn in this list or program sheet to me by Friday, September 4. [Remember you can use St. Al's library over the summer – check with Mrs. Murphy on days/hours.](#)

****Extra Credit:** ([Only if available through the re-opening of activities due to Covid closures – no online performances accepted](#))

Steps to complete: 1) Attend any outdoor play (check the websites of the area's many fine theater groups, such as Wooden O, Greenstage, or Young Shakespeare Workshop for performance schedules) or live arts performance; 2) bring a program with the date you attended and a parent's signature; 3) Write a one to two paragraph review of the performance; 4) staple steps 2 & 3 together AND turn in by Friday, September 4.

I am looking forward to seeing you in September. In the meantime...

Happy Reading!