June 15, 2021

Dear rising 7th & 8th grade students,

Welcome to Language Arts. As I discussed with you last week, this summer’s reading assignment will look different from last year. We all need a break so there is no assigned class book to read, nor is there any project to be completed for the beginning of the year. However, summertime is a wonderful time to relax and enjoy the adventures that are available in books, and it is also the easiest way to keep your brain active and ready for school.

So, this summer’s assignment is to read five (5) books of your choosing (at grade level, of course). The hitch is that two (2) of them must be about Washington State (see list on back) and you must record them on a book log – Title, author, number of pages, and parent signature. This will be due by Friday, September 10th. These books will count as books read for the Summer Reader Reward (see below) and your first LA grades. The pages of the Washington State books will also count for first trimester independent reading.

To further encourage you to read there is my Summer Reader Reward. To earn this, enroll in your library’s summer reading program or simply keep track of ten (or more) books that you have read and have a parent sign the list (your 5 required books put you half-way to reaching this goal and may be counted for this reward). Bring this list or program sheet to me by Friday, September 13, and you will receive your reward.

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

Happy Reading!
Washington State Summer Reading List

Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie:
The Oregon Trail Diary of Hattie Campbell
Kristina Gregory

April and the Dragon Lady
Lensey Namioka

Baseball Saved Us
Gary Soto

Bat 6
Virginia Euwer Wolff

Bound for Oregon
Jean Van Leeuwen

Boston Jane
Jennifer L. Holm

The Captain’s Dog: My Journey with the Lewis and Clark Tribe
Roland Smith

I Heard the Owl Call My Name
Margaret Craven

I Survived the Eruption of Mount St. Helens
Lauren Tarshis

Indian No More
Charlene Willing McMonis & Traci Surell

The Journal of Jedediah Barslow:
An Emigrant on the Oregon Trail, Overland, 1845
Ellen Levine

The Journal of Augustus Pelleter: Lewis & Clark Expedition
My Name is America series

The One and Only Ivan
Katherine Applegate

Our Only May Amelia
Jennifer L. Holm

Terror at the Zoo
Peg Kehret

Thin Wood Walls
David Patneaude

Thunder Riding in the Mountains
Scott O’Dell & Elizabeth Hale

The Volcano Disaster
Peg Kehret

Volcano: The Eruption of Mt. St. Helens
Patricia Lauber

**These are only some recommendations. Check out library and other book sites for books set in and/or about Washington State and add to the list.