



Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to 8th Grade Literature! I am looking forward to working with you and your child. My 8th graders had a great time this year rediscovering books. We worked on reading for the simple joy of reading, and understanding how amazing it can be if we make this activity a priority in our busy lives (mine included!) My goal this year is to help your child to find that inner reader...even if it is buried deep, deep, deep inside! Reading should be enjoyable. It doesn't have to be a task to accomplish.

Students must spread out their reading over the ENTIRE summer, not squeeze it all in during August. I am asking that they read 20 minutes at least 3 days a week...that's just one total hour! This is nothing compared to cramming hours in at the end of the summer. Minutes must be logged on the calendar provided each day after reading, and a parent must initial. This means that I am looking for a **MINIMUM of 3 boxes marked each and every week from June 1st through August 3rd. If both minutes and initials are not in the box, it will not count as an entry. Vacation does not constitute an excuse for not reading! Books are super portable!**

In addition, students must use the bingo sheet to add a bit more creativity to our summer reading. **Parents should date and initial each square as they see their child finish them.** One 20 minute reading session could fill both a day on the calendar and a square of the bingo board. **You may not mark more than one bingo square on any particular day. Each student must get 1 bingo before the first full day of school... either across, down or diagonally.** If a student gets more than 1 bingo, he or she will be eligible for a drawing with fabulous prizes. The more bingos they make, the more chances to win.

Lastly all students must read 1 book cover to cover. They will be required to share with their classmates a synopsis on their books as well as their view on if others might like to read it.. Obviously, I'd love them to read more books than that, but of course some books are much longer than others! Enjoy your summer, and this year, try to add a little more reading to it! I look forward to hearing all about it in August.

Mrs. McLain