

Dear Class of 2021 (incoming 6th graders):

Summer Reading

Reading keeps your mind active, it increases your vocabulary, it improves the fluidity and fluency of your speaking skills, and it makes you think. Some people love to read and some do not. Summer reading assignments are not meant as punishments. This assignment is meant to keep your mind sharp, allow the class to have some open discussion about common topics from the book, and allow me to see how well you comprehend the major parts of a story.

The book you will read this summer is "Nothing But The Truth" by Avi.

Nothing But the Truth examines the imperfect nature of what humans call the truth. The novel is a documentary, drawing its "facts" from a variety of memos, conversations, letters and a diary. The novel illustrates how inaccuracies and outright lies can be magnified by politics and the media. The author, Avi, suggests that information is only as accurate as the original source.

There are 19 chapters in this book. As you read, you will create a literary response journal for each chapter. You should date the top and then write a short summary of the chapter in a few sentences. Please use and highlight the following terms: characters, protagonist, setting, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution, conflict, theme, foreshadowing, irony After the summary include a reflection of that chapter.

A sample of a response entry appears below. This assignment will be due in print on the first day of school. We will also use this novel for our first graded writing assignment.

Enjoy reading and have a wonderful summer. See you in September!

Love, Mrs. Gulla

EXAMPLE:

June 19, 2018

Chapter 1: The main character, Philip Malloy writes in his diary that Coach Jamison stopped him in the hall and asked him to try out for the track team. He was on the Junior High track team, and he hopes to make the Harrison High School team although he is only a freshman. Philip dreams of someday competing in the Olympics. This dream is supported by Philip's father, who was a gifted runner in his day. Mr. Malloy insists that the only way Philip will ever be chosen for the Olympics is to be a college track star. Mr. Malloy once had Olympic dreams of his own, but he had to quit college when his father died. I believe it is important for students to participate in sports. Studies show that playing a sport makes a student more organized. I do not believe a parents' dream should become a child's dream.