



Bayside High School

32-24 Corporal Kennedy Street, Bayside, New York 11361 Telephone (718) 229-7600

Judith S. Tarlo, Principal

Shana Tessenholtz, A.P. English

BAYSIDE SUMMER READING

Dear Parents and Students,

Why do we require summer reading? There are numerous reasons, but our primary motive is simply to encourage you to be and become readers – people who read for pleasure. The joy derived from books is lifelong; the skills acquired through reading lasts for a lifetime.

During the summer break, all incoming students must read and take notes on **two** books. Rather than give you a list of books to choose from, we offer the websites listed below as resources. **We rely on parents to review the books selected by their children to ensure that they are appropriate.** No one can make a better decision for a child than a parent.

Where to find books:

Students are responsible for obtaining their own books. Virtually all the listed works are available at the public library; should you wish to purchase books, they are available at Barnes & Noble or Amazon.com.

How to select a book:

- *Read something you will enjoy
- *Variety is healthy
- *Get recommendations from people who know your interests
- *Push the envelope; select a challenging book
- *Do not leave your summer reading until the last two weeks of vacation

Finding Books:

**Outstanding Books for the College Bound. The American Library Association's list of best books for young adults.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistawards/booklistsbook.html>

**Modern Library's List of the Top 100 English-Language Novels of the 20th Century

<http://randomhouse.com/modernlibrary/100best.html>

**Amazon.com's Best Books of the Century

www.amazon.com Search: Best Books of the Century

Have a happy, healthy summer – and enjoy your reading!



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SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Directions: Please **word-process** your response. Computers are available at the Public Library if you do not have your own. All work must be **double spaced in a standard 12 point font**. TWO pages only.

Please include the following information in your heading:

1. Your name and the grade you are entering.
2. Title, author and date of publication of the book.

Assignment: Choose two (2) books. For each book:

- a. Select a passage of quotation that has a special meaning for you. Copy it and include the page number it appears on. Discuss what the passage means to you and why you chose it.
- b. Where and when does the story happen? How does the author describe the time and place?
- c. Who is the narrator of the story? How are they related to the story (main character, observer, minor character)?
- d. What is the story really about? What does it show us or attempt to teach us?

All assignments are to be handed in to your English teacher on Monday, September 8, 2008. This assignment will count as a regular grade from 65-100 and will be part of your average for the first marking period which ends in mid-October.

Please return this sheet with your assignment and your parents signature as indicated.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Shana Tessenholtz
Assistant Principal, English

Student's Name

Parent's Signature