SUMMER READING REQUIREMENTS 2019

We are pleased to provide you the information on the Summer Reading Program for 2019! This program is required for EACH student entering his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior year at OTHS.

Why do we have to do this?

When you think of summer, many of you think of swimming, vacationing, spending time with friends, and enjoying the outdoors. We want you to enjoy all of these things while participating in something that will make you more successful as a student next year — and a summer reading program has been shown to do just that. Last year, we found that most students enjoyed the books that they read. We hope you take this summer’s opportunity to broaden your horizons through reading.

Did you know that summer reading can improve:

- Reading Ability
- Writing Ability
- Vocabulary
- Grammar
- Test Scores
- Enjoyment of Reading?

All of these skills are vital to your overall success in school and beyond.

Grade-Level Requirements

For this program, you must read ONE book. The book must be from our book list (attached in this packet). Then, you must complete a prewriting sheet about the book. The grade-level prewriting sheet is due the second day back at school. The prewriting sheet (15 points), along with a writing assignment will be assigned by your English teacher at the start of the school year (20 points), will be worth 35 points. If you would like to see an example of an “A” pre-writing sheets, please visit the Summer Reading Program homepage available from the OTHS homepage – www.oths.us.
English Honors/AP Students

If you are in the English honors/AP program, you must read a second book. Freshmen must read Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. Sophomores must choose either A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens OR 1984 by George Orwell. Juniors must read Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison. Seniors must read iGen: Why Today’s Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy—and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood—and What That Means for the Rest of Us by Jean M. Twenge. You will have a test over your book within the first 10 days of school worth an additional 25 points. Students do NOT need to complete a prewriting sheet for the required honors book. They only need to complete a prewriting sheet for the book of choice.

Book Choices

Our book list is compiled of noted and award-winning titles which have been highly reviewed. Each grade-level list is centered on a theme that will be woven throughout the upcoming literature courses. Freshmen will read books centered on self-identity, sophomores will read books based upon global issues and awareness, and juniors will read books that focus on America’s history, including its social and cultural development. Seniors will read from a selection of nonfiction, including biographies, autobiographies, and other books focused on people choosing various career and life paths. The title packet contains summaries of the books to help you make good choices that fit you and your personality. Parents are encouraged to play an active role in helping students select appropriate titles.

Where do I get the books?

One of the easiest ways to find the books is to borrow them from local libraries. The Smiley IMC will be open for all SRP checkouts weekdays from 7:30am-3:30pm through June. The Smiley IMC will open again on August 1st. There will be a book return location near the Smiley Security Desk for students to return books. In addition, many local libraries, including the public libraries in O’Fallon, Fairview Heights, and Scott Air Force Base, have the lists available and can help students who have a public library card find the books they need.

Some of you may choose to purchase your books. To help with this option, we have enlisted the support of Barnes & Noble. They will have access to your book lists and displays to help you find the books you need. When you finish reading a book, we ask you to consider sharing that book with another student you know. This will allow more access for all.
Audio and eBooks

OTHS is happy to announce the availability of audiobooks and eBooks for many of our Summer Reading Program titles. Students can access these types of books for free by accessing the eBooks and Audiobooks link on the Summer Reading Program homepage. You will need your student username and password to access eBooks and audiobooks. Your username and password are the same ones you use to log into any OTHS computer. If you do not know this information, you can contact any IMC staff member or email us at IMC@oths.us. Complete “Getting Started Guides” are available on the IMC’s eBooks and Audiobooks link accessed from the Summer Reading Program homepage.

Please note not all titles are available in all platforms.

Axis 360—provides access to a statewide collection of eBooks and audiobooks
First time users will need to register for a new account
Library Card ID: oths203 + first name followed by your OTHS student ID (oths203john219000)
Password: the same one you use at school

Destiny Discover—provides access to Follett eBooks
Location: Illinois
School: OTHS- choose either the Milburn Campus or the Smiley Campus (choose the campus in which you are currently enrolled)
Use the same username and password you use at school

Just Moving to O’Fallon This Summer?

Students registering prior to July 24th will be required to complete the summer reading project by the second day of school, August 14th. The Guidance Department will track students whose initial course selection meetings are scheduled between July 23th - August 12th. These students will be required to complete and submit the summer reading project within the first six weeks of the semester. Students who go through the course selection process on or after August 13th are exempt from the Summer Reading Program.

Review

To make this process simple, just remember this formula:

1 book + 1 prewriting sheet = SUCCESS!

Do your best so that you can start off the year with a successful 35 point start! 😊 All handouts as well as examples are available from the Summer Reading Program homepage from the OTHS homepage. Visit www.oths.us for more information or contact Ms. Seipp at seippj@oths.us or the IMC at imc@oths.us.