

Dear AoA Students & Parents/Guardians,

Congratulations on successfully completing the 2014-2015 school year! Because you worked so hard this school year to reach your reading goals through the Accelerated Reader program, we have implemented a **Summer Reading Program** that will allow you to maintain your reading endurance skills for next school year.

We believe that it is crucial for our students to read on a daily basis and love the books they are reading. The more students read for enjoyment, the more quickly they become stronger readers. Additionally, research shows that students who do not read over the summer experience a decline in reading skills; therefore, we are determined to provide the means for **all** of our students to continually grow and improve as readers.

The Summer Reading Program requires you to read at least two books this summer. Your current English teacher will provide you with goals for your summer reading. These goals will require you to consider the books that you read this school year, the level of the books that you read, and the AR quizzes that you successfully completed. After you read each summer book, you will complete a **novel summary** that follows the assigned criteria. You may also access the summer reading documents by going to the AOA website (aoaschools.org) and clicking on Parent Resources. From there, select your grade level Resources folder. This folder will contain all of the necessary handouts and directions for completing the summer reading requirements.

Basically, you will **read two novels** of your choice (websites with suggested novels will be provided in your grade-level folder), write **two novel summaries** (see summary handout; can also be accessed in grade-level folder), and take **one AR quiz** when you return to AOA (select the novel that you feel you will be able to recall the most detail and be most successful). Additionally, you will be required to complete a **novel activity** at the beginning of the school year that reflects on one of the novels that you read over the summer (same novel used for AR quiz).

You will also need to gain parent/guardian signatures for your novel summaries. These signatures will include dates and will let your teacher know that you completed your novel reading during the reading window deadlines. These deadlines will be in place to prevent procrastination and promote parent involvement. Students who demonstrate that they clearly completed the summer reading requirements will earn points toward their independent reading grade.

We hope you have a wonderful summer and enjoy your books! We look forward to discussing your summer reading books and, of course, seeing you on the first day of school.

Sincerely,
AoA English Teachers