



May, 2010

Dear 7th Grade Parents:

We are writing to give your Derryfield student his or her summer reading assignment. Reading in the summer is very important. It keeps the mind active, the skills current, and provides a more flexible time frame to enjoy reading. One of our goals for seventh graders is to encourage students to do even more pleasure reading in the middle school. This sometimes becomes more difficult as students are responsible for more critical reading in their middle and upper school classes. Pleasure reading, however, is a life-long habit, which needs to be an important component of any literature program.

This summer, students will be reading one of the following realistic fiction books:

A Mango-Shaped Space by Wendy Mass

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Tangerine by Edward Bloor

All of these adolescent literature books have won several awards. We hope that parents have an opportunity to also read the same book to encourage great discussions at home. Most of all, we want to promote reading as an enjoyable and enriching experience. Feel free to read more than the required book. Have fun with this assignment!

These books can be found in most libraries, ordered in bookstores in paperback, or ordered online at www.VarsityBooks.com. To locate more information and reviews about the four books, go to one of the following websites: Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, or Varsity Books.com. You may also Google the book. Students will reflect in their reading journals and discuss these books in class during the first two weeks of school. It is important for your son or daughter to bring the summer reading book to school the first day of classes.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend best wishes for an enjoyable summer. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,

Paul & Karen Whitmore
7th Grade English Teachers