

## 9th Grade English Summer Reading - 2018-2019

Congratulations on entering high school!

This year in English we will be focusing on the role of individual in society and the journeys that all individuals and heroes encounter. There are two books for our summer reading, one is a whole Ninth Grade read and the second you will choose from this list of classics.

Please read *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. This story profiles a fourteen year-old boy who presents on the spectrum. His journey to understanding himself and his place in his family and society is poignant and thought-provoking. We recommend that you buy your own copy, so you can take notes in the margin; however, if you borrow it from the library, highlight/flag significant sections as you are reading. We will be starting the year with a study of this novel, so please respond these questions to in writing:

- 1) *Where does the story start? How are the shifts in setting important to the novel?*
- 2) *What is Christopher's relationship like with his father? How does this relationship change as the story progresses?*
- 3) *What does Christopher's life look like at the beginning of the story? How does his characterization change throughout the novel, and how is he different by the end of his journey?*

For your second required reading, we are immersing you in the classics. Please select one work (or more!) to read from this list:

Knowles, John	<i>A Separate Peace</i>
Dumas, Alexander	<i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Emma</i>
Alcott, Louisa May	<i>Little Women</i>
Cather, Willa	<i>My Antonia</i> ( <i>High School Library has copies</i> )
Smith, Betty	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>
Paul Zindel	<i>The Effect of Gamma Rays on the Moon</i>

**We will be writing about your summer reading during the first weeks of school, the assignment will be a thematic analysis, of the two summer works, that aims to synthesize and analyze a common theme.**

Best,  
9th Grade English Teachers



