



May, 2021

Dear Sixth Grade Parents,

To prepare your children for an exciting and productive school year in English, each student is **required to read one book and keep a chapter-by-chapter reading journal during the summer.**

The reading journal is a place where students should write about major events in the chapter. Students should pay attention to and write about character development, setting, plot, and conflicts. **Journal entries for each chapter do not need to be more than a few sentences.** Journals can be written in paper notebooks or a computer document.

Your children will have a choice of reading *Ghost* (Track #1) by Jason Reynolds or *The Scavengers* by Michael Perry. Students only have to read one novel, but they are free to read both. Below is a summary of each novel.

If you have any questions, please email Upper Division Dean of Students and Faculty, Mrs. Peta Miller, at pmiller@denverjds.org or Barbara Silberman at bsilberman@denverjds.org.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Jason DiGioia

Ghost (Track #1): Jason Reynolds

Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent. Thing is, Ghost has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he is trying to outrun. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?

The Scavengers: Michael Perry

When the world started to fall apart, the government gave everyone two choices: move into the Bubble Cities...or take their chances outside. Maggie's family chose to live in the world that was left behind. Deciding it's time to grow up and grow tough, Maggie rechristens herself "Ford Falcon"—a name inspired by the beat-up car she finds at a nearby junkyard. Ford's family goes to this junkyard to scavenge for things they can use or barter with the other people who live "OutBubble". Her family has been able to survive this brave new world by working together. But when Ford comes home one day to discover her home ransacked and her family missing, she must find the strength to rescue her loved ones with the help of some unlikely friends.