Hello sixth graders, and welcome to (almost) being seventh graders!



Your summer reading book for 2026 is Jerry Craft's 2019 graphic novel *New Kid*. The seventh grade English teachers have compiled the attached packet to offer you some structure and guidance as you read.

One of our year-long goals in seventh grade is to engage in a more thoughtful and intentional process of reading, shifting to actively understand, consider, and reflect on both the literal and abstract levels of meaning. The material in this packet (available at the QR code below) aims to help you do just that. As you read, use this resource to help you record your observations, reactions, thoughts, and opinions. If used deliberately, it can help you understand the story, organize your thoughts, and keep track of which parts of the book are important.

When you begin school, we will focus our first unit of study on the book, and eventually we will assign a first quarter writing assessment by the end of September. You may use these original notes to help you compose that assignment, so we urge you to take advantage of the material being provided to you. Take thorough and accurate notes, enjoy the story, and have a great summer!

Warmly,
The Seventh Grade English Team

Access a digital copy of the packet here.

SCAN ME!



Dear Parents,

Welcome to seventh grade English! We are eagerly looking ahead to greeting your children when they walk through our doors in September!

Sustained reading over summer months has countless benefits for developing students. It builds skills, combats learning loss, keeps kids engaged in thinking about the world beyond themselves, and deepens knowledge, awareness, and understanding. Reading can have the greatest impact when students select titles that are appropriately suited to their current interests and ability.

If you are interested in supporting your child's pursuit of additional reading over the summer but aren't sure where to start, we offer the following lists. These are merely recommendations, so feel free to be choosy! Use your discretion in identifying selections that you think are good fits for your specific child.

We do hope you find these resources helpful, and we can't wait to see you all in September!

Warmly,
Jennifer Sapir
English Chair

Mensa's Excellence in Reading Program Grades 7-8

Time Magazine's 100 Best YA Books of All Time

American Library Association's Best Fiction for Young Adults

New York Public Library's Spring 2026 Picks for Teens