Dear Patrons,

Summer has begun, and we are excited to add required summer reading to our English curriculum for middle school students this year. Reading comprehension is crucial to student success in every subject area, and consistent reading helps students build vocabulary, improve critical thinking skills, and maintain academic progress during the break.

We ask for your support in encouraging your child to put down the devices for a little while and pick up a book instead. Reading is fundamental, and even a small amount of reading can make a significant difference in your child's academic growth and confidence.

Below you will find the list of required summer reading for all incoming 7th - 9th grade students. Students will be given a test over the required book during the first week of school. Students who struggle with reading may listen to the audiobook version.

Required Summer Reading:

- **7th Grade:** *My Dog Skip* by Willie Morris
- **8th Grade:** *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
- **9th Grade:** *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

Thank you for partnering with us to help our students continue learning and growing throughout the summer. We hope you all have a safe, restful, and enjoyable break! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Daniels at mdaniels@bentonacademy.org.