

June 2017

Dear Incoming 7th Grade Students and Families,

This summer we are asking each middle school student to read the same book selection, I Will Always Write Back by Caitlin Alifirenka, Martin Ganda, and Liz Welch. This is a summary of the book:

“The true story of an all-American girl and a boy from an impoverished city in Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever.

It started as an assignment. Everyone in Caitlin’s class wrote to an unknown student somewhere in a distant place. All the other kids picked countries like France or Germany, but when Caitlin saw Zimbabwe on the board, it sounded like the most exotic place she had ever heard of—so she chose it.

Martin was lucky to even receive a pen pal letter. There were only 10 letters, and 40 kids in his class. But he was the top student, so he got the first one.

That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives.” Little Brown Library.com

Each student has been given a copy of this book to use over the summer. We are planning activities and discussions for the fall so please make sure you have the book completed before summer break is over. I read this book a few weeks ago and loved it. I hope you will too.

In addition to reading I Will Always Write Back, you should read **at least 2** other books over the summer. There are many resources for finding good books to read - including the Seattle Public Library website (spl.org) and the Seattle Times online. I’ve attached a summer reading log to help you keep track of what you read.

Mrs. Boone and I are also asking that you complete a summer math packet. It is designed for you to do one page of math a week. All the skills included in the packet are review of material you learned in 6th grade math. Please practice and talk about math everyday! Listen to the news for math related topics, discuss the stats of your favorite teams and sports stars, do math with Mom and Dad while shopping, play math games, look for interesting and fun math problems to solve. Anything you can do to practice and improve your math skills will help you this fall as we embark upon 7th grade math.

Enjoy your summer - play, laugh, rest and read. I will miss you and look forward to seeing you this fall.

Mrs. Hawk
shawk@ollseattle.org

Name: _____

2017 SUMMER READING LOG

	Book Title and Author	Total # of Pages	Date Started	Date Completed	Parent Initials	Comments About the Book
1	<u>I Will Always Write Back</u> by Alifirenka, Welch, Ganda	396				
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						