

May 21, 2008

Dear Entering Form II Students:

We still have final examinations to go, but we have been thinking about your summer reading! We want you to have a relaxing and book-filled summer, and we have worked hard to create a summer reading list with something for everybody. Thanks to many of you and to Mrs. Ashworth for making so many wonderful suggestions.

This year's all form book is Melba Pattillo Beals' Warriors Don't Cry. One of nine African-American teenagers who integrated Little Rock's Central High School, Ms. Beals' memoir details the struggle these children had to get the education promised them by the 1954 Supreme Court *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling. The author is very straightforward in telling her story, and she includes the language that she hears used by segregationists in her narrative. This language is offensive. Please don't skip the introduction, titled "Time Brings About a Change: Updating Warriors Don't Cry in 2007." I encourage you to buy this book as we will use it during the first two weeks of English in the fall. Simon Pulse, which is a division of Simon & Schuster, has a paperback edition of the text for \$6.99. The ISBN-13 number for this edition is 978-1-4169-4882-7, and the ISBN-10 number is 1-4169-4882-1. We will refer to page numbers from this edition during our discussions. Although no-one will check your highlighting and margin notes, we do recommend that you mark up your book in the way that works best for you. Think about the literary elements of plot, setting, character, and theme as you read. We do test you on this book.

You are required to read three additional books from this reading list as well. Remember that each of these books must be from a different literary genre. Of course, we would be very happy if you choose to read more than the minimum from the list! Since you will write in-class essays on these books, we suggest that you mark up your texts or keep some notes as you read. What you read in June may not be very fresh in your mind by September.

You must write a teaser for the three required books from the reading list. These should be typed using Times New Roman 12 point font and mounted on a 3x5 index card. If you are not sure how to start, look at the teasers on the summer reading list. Remember that these have to be completely your own work. Be sure to use complete sentences and check that your spelling and grammar are correct.

The Form II Summer Reading List can be found on the Shady Side Academy web page. Check www.shadysideacademy.org. Click on "Parents" and then go to "Downloadable Forms." From there, click on "Summer Reading Lists." The list is there.

Have a wonderful summer and enjoy your reading!

Sincerely,

Ms. Banwell
Form II English