

June 1, 2009

Dear St. Francis Elementary incoming 6th grade students and parents,

Here is the summer reading list for sixth grade. All of the books are available through the Sacramento Public Library System, Borders, Barnes and Noble or Amazon.com, though you may have to order them. I also have a number of copies that may be borrowed over the summer. Please see me for those books before Friday, June 5th.

Required books (read both):

Maroo of the Winter Caves by Ann Turnbull

The Egypt Game by Zilpha Keatly Snyder

Please bring in the following information (written neatly or typed) on each **required** book:

1. Book Title and Author
2. Main Characters in the story: Names and relationships to each other
3. Setting: Where and when the story took place.
4. Point of View: How the story is being told. Ex. First person: the narrator is also a main character who refers to himself as "I." Third person—the point of view switches around and the characters are "he" or "she."
5. Plot summary: What happens?
6. Personal Opinion: Did you like the book? Why or why not? What parts did you particularly like or dislike? Why?

Pick one (1) of the following books and find your favorite story. There is no written assignment on this book:

The Lady of Ten Thousand Names: Goddess Stories from Many Cultures by Burleigh Merten

OR

Mightier Than the Sword: World Folktales for Strong Boys by Jane Yolen

We will do group work and discussions with these books in Literature, Social Studies and Performing Arts at the beginning of the year, so please make sure that the books are read and the two reports come with the student on the first day of school. The written assignment will count towards the first trimester grade and late work will lose 10 points a day. Please don't procrastinate!

Happy reading and have a great summer!

Ms. Pressburg

Fieldtrips:

There are a few field trips already scheduled for the sixth grade. I thought it might be useful to have the dates, times, and costs early. There will be other trips, but these are the ones already scheduled. These are based around their social studies and science curriculum. Here are the ones we have planned so far:

1. Discovery Museum, *Digging Up the Past* program. September 18, 2009, 9:30-Noon. Cost: \$8 per child. Carpool needed to Auburn Blvd., but they should be parents willing to get dusty in the archaeological dig with the students.
2. Sly Park, October 12-October 16, 2009 Cost: \$235 per child/chaperones are free. A packet with more information will be handed out at a special Sly Park meeting (about a week after the Back to School night). Drivers will be needed to drop off and pick up students at Sly Park in Pollock Pines along with one male and one female chaperone to stay the week.

** Parents, please make sure that in addition to having fingerprints on file, you turn in all paperwork regarding volunteering at the beginning of the year. Also, make sure you have completed the Shielding the Vulnerable program online. It will be required for all volunteers next year. The link to it can be found on the school's website:
www.stfranciselem.org

If you have any questions over the summer, feel free to email me:
sixthgrade@stfranciselem.org

Ms. Pressburg