Ho-Ho-Kus Public School

Required Summer Reading for Seventh Grade 2015

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Seventh-Grade Summer Reading
2015

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.” --- Albert Einstein

Instructions:

☐ 1. Read required book, *Fish in a Tree*
☐ 2. Read required book, *A Tale Dark & Grimm*
☐ 3. Choose one writing assignment to complete to accompany either *Fish in a Tree* or *A Tale Dark & Grimm*
☐ 4. Reading Enrichment: Choose any novel to enjoy over the summer (no graphic novels)
☐ 5. For extra credit, write a short book review of each novel. Bring the review(s) to school no later than September 10th to earn credit. The review should include information about the genre, characters, setting, and plot. It should also include your opinion as to why you might recommend the book to another student in the middle school. The review should be at least one page, typed, double-spaced. Readers who participate in reading enrichment activities will have an opportunity to present their novel(s) to their peers in a special TV Studio spotlight activity during the first trimester.
☐ 6. Feel free to use the calendar templates that are included to set goals, plan out your reading and assignments. These will not be collected.

If you have questions during the summer, please e-mail Mr. Quigley at wquigley@hohokus.org or Mrs. Frassetto at kfrassetto@hohokus.org.
**Required Reading Assignment**

Lynda Mullaly Hunt’s *Fish in a Tree*

Using the character’s voice, you will write a five-paragraph letter (typed, MLA format) as either Ally or Travis. You will address Ally and Travis’s grandpa. While their grandpa was living, he believed in Ally and Travis. They continue to be inspired by him. This letter will be an opportunity to tell him all of the reasons why he would be proud of them.

The format of the writing piece should be a letter, written in first person, addressed to Grandpa. The letter should start off, “Dear Grandpa...”

The topic for this assignment is for you, as Ally or Travis, to take the opportunity to express everything that you as either Ally or Travis want to express to Grandpa. Consider these topic questions:

- What do I want to tell Grandpa about...
- Who are the people who have inspired me?
- What are my accomplishments?
- What do I want to thank Grandpa for?
- What struggles have I overcome?
The idea of the dragon is an important one in fairy tales in general, particularly in *A Tale Dark & Grimm*. Type your responses, MLA format. Responses must be complete sentence(s).

1. What do you think is the metaphorical significance of the dragon?

   Below follow some ideas to help you start brainstorming:

   - A dragon has wisdom due to long lives and potent magic.
   - A dragon’s charms can bring power.
   - A dragon can play the role of an angel.
   - A dragon can protect.
   - A dragon can be a friend of children, as in the song and poem “Puff the Magic Dragon.”
   - In the film *Dragonheart*, the last dragon and a disillusioned dragon slaying knight must cooperate to stop an evil king who was given partial immortality.

2. What other metaphorical significance might the dragon have?

3. What else does a dragon represent?

4. Answer the following in complete sentences (typed, MLA format):

   a. What clue are we given on page 193 that the dragon might have another identity?
   b. Is the dragon defeated?
   c. How do you know?
   d. Can we ever tackle our “dragons” alone?
   e. Who ended up being Hansel and Gretel’s army?
   f. What is your “dragon?”
   g. How would you defeat it?