



# Summer Reading 2023

Parents and Students,

Knowing how vital reading is to overall academic success, ICA has designed a Summer Reading Program to engage our students in meaningful and enjoyable reading that strengthens their reading skills and broadens their knowledge base. Research has shown that reading 20 minutes a day can improve critical thinking skills, expand empathy, and enhance overall academic performance. However, like any other skill, reading requires practice, which is necessary if students are to increase fluency, expand vocabulary, and deepen comprehension.

The books on the Summer Reading list have been chosen because they are time-tested works of literature with something of lasting significance to offer to those who read them. A love of great books will only be cultivated by exposure to great books. Therefore, our Summer Reading Program represents a required reading assignment, and a parent's role in supporting the program is invaluable. Parents can support their children's reading by creating a reading schedule, discussing the books together, or offering incentives for completing the program.

Please note the following program guidelines:

- Students will read books from the list supplied for the grade level they are entering.
- Books are not to be "read" via SparkNotes, Wikipedia, or any other alternative to the real thing.
- The books should be completed before the school year begins.
- Rising 7th - 12th-grade students will be required to read one novel and complete five Achieve 3000 articles.

One of the books is an assigned reading selection that the entire class will read. If there is a choice, please choose the unabridged version of your assigned reading selection. An assessment will be given for the required novel, which will be graded and included in the student's Language Arts or English grade for the first grading period.

- All required book selections are available for purchase through Amazon or from other booksellers, and many of the books will be available in the public library.



7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be required to read one novel and complete five Achieve 3000 articles.

1. **Required Book:** The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois

**Required Book Assessment:** During the first week back to school in August, you will spend one of your English class periods writing an in-class essay related to the required novel. You will be given an essay prompt that will require you to think about the novel, make connections, and support your ideas with examples and specifics from the novel. The grade on the essay will be recorded as one entry in a gradebook category in your English class.

2. **Achieve 3000 Articles\*:** Students will be required to complete five Achieve 3000 articles, aiming for a score of 75% or higher on their first attempt. The completed articles will be recorded as one entry per article in the gradebook category of your English class. Students will use their current Achieve 3000 login credentials to access the articles.

\*If your child does not have an Achieve 3000 login or they do not have access, please contact the main office at 904-652-1441 **after** the week of June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.