

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2010 GRADE 7

MRS. SEEDS

Reading a good novel is a great way to keep your brain in shape during those long summer days. I have chosen a unique and exciting novel for this year's summer reading. Each student is **required** to read "*The Mysterious Benedict Society*" by Trenton Lee Stewart. The story begins with an ad in the newspaper that says, "*Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities?*" Reynie, an orphan, decides that he is, and convinces the orphanage director to let him take the test. Along with three other children who pass, Reynie meets the mysterious Mr. Benedict, a narcoleptic who lives behind a maze, and who has an important mission for the children. This mystery will keep you guessing and reading this summer. You might not be able to put it down!

You will be required to keep a response journal as you read this book. Just use a spiral notebook with your name and the name of the book written on the front cover. After every few chapters, write one paragraph that tells your reaction to a character in the book, your reaction to an event in the story, or a theme that you see emerging. Be sure to make predictions along the way. It is a mystery, after all!

Some of the vocabulary from "The Mysterious Benedict Society" is difficult. Find 10 words that you are unfamiliar with and make note cards with the definition on one side and a drawing of the word on the other side. Please write the page number next to each new word that you use. You may place these completed cards inside your journal. Be creative with your drawings.

When you have completed the entire novel, please be sure to answer the following questions in your response journal:

What was the most surprising thing about the book?

Did you learn something new from reading the book?

Who was your favorite character and why?

If you could ask the author, Trenton Lee Stewart, one question about his book, what would it be?

This book can be borrowed from the library or purchased from a bookstore or Amazon.com. It is well worth the money.

The first week of school, our reading class will be devoted to discussion, journal sharing and a test on "The Mysterious Benedict Society." **Please bring your completed journals to class on August 23, 2010.** They will be graded and returned. These activities and test will be your first reading grades for the year. **Please have your parent or guardian sign the front of your journal when it is completed. Your completed journal will be worth 50 points and your test will be worth 50 points.**

Enjoy this book and have a great summer. I cannot wait to meet you all!

Mrs. Seeds