

Baker Middle School
25400 Oak Drive
Damascus, Maryland 20872
May 2009



Dear Students and Parents,

Success in reading comprehension and fluency is achieved by reading. Educational research has repeatedly shown that students who read for pleasure are more likely to develop reading skills. Certainly, regular practice is linked to success in developing almost any skill.

To maintain and develop reading skills over the summer, Montgomery County Public Schools require students to read throughout the summer. At Baker, each student is encouraged to read as many books as possible over the summer, but they are only required to write about one book when they return to school in the fall. Summer reading materials may include fiction books, biographies, nonfiction titles, newspapers, and magazines.

Students must complete the attached organizer for one of their summer reading books. Ultimately, students will use this organizer to complete a writing assignment in their Reading/English classes early in the school year.

We have included suggested reading lists to identify examples of age-appropriate reading selections for middle school students. Students and parents may select titles from these lists or titles that match their student's interests and reading level. **The books on these lists are not required reading. These lists simply provide a starting place for students on their journey toward self-selecting their own books.**

We hope that each student has an enjoyable and productive summer reading experience. We will look forward to sharing summer readings when, school opens in August.

Sincerely,

Heather Steele
English Resource

Louise Worthington
Principal

Barbara Kelley
Reading Specialist

"Get Caught Reading!"

The Baker Media Center and English Department are sponsoring the "Get Caught Reading" program this summer. During summer vacations and travels, students are encouraged to photograph themselves reading. These photographs are to be turned into the Media Center in August when, students return for classes. Be creative! Prizes will be rewarded in a variety of categories to students that choose to participate.