

Hello students, parents, guardians, and more!

Ms. Hester and Mrs. Hanna have worked hard to give you something to keep your brain engaged while you're safe at home amidst the Covid-19 safer-at-home response. We have put together reading and writing practice that you can do on your own at home in half an hour or less a day. Each week you have 3 readings (nonfiction, fiction, & poetry) and 2 writing prompts. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO THESE ASSIGNMENTS.** They are meant to keep you sharp so that when we return to classes in August your brain hasn't been sitting on the sidelines for 5 months.

**PARENTS:** More than anything, encouraging your student to read and write in any capacity is going to help them avoid the "summer slide." Writing in a personal journal, following our narrative prompts, or writing a story of their own are all good practice. Reading, as a cornerstone skill, is important to success in all subjects, but it doesn't all look the same. Just because your student is reading anime instead of the classics doesn't mean they aren't getting the benefits of reading. Encourage them to read anything and everything: news articles about the pandemic, fictional books as an escape, dystopia to deal with the dread and hopelessness that some feel, even magazines or subtitles on Netflix are better than not reading at all. One of the best ways to encourage your student to read is for them to see you reading. We have parents that will read alongside their student and have come to learn a lot about their student and have found a doorway into conversation that can sometimes be difficult.

More than anything, Ms. Hester and Mrs. Hanna want their students to know that they are valued, loved, and missed. Although our school year didn't end the same way it has in the past doesn't make our time together any less special. We look forward to seeing you in the halls next year.

To keep updated on administrative decisions regarding the pick-up of belongings, class enrollment for next year, and grade configuration you can check the school website often, and follow Guthrie Public Schools on Facebook.

Please feel free to reach out to either of us via email with any questions, but allow a day or two for response in case we are inundated with questions and requests.

Thank you for your continued support

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