



June 19, 2019

Dear IDEAL Families:

It has been a pleasure partnering with you and sharing in your children's personal and academic growth throughout the year. Each year, the English department develops summer work that will engage, challenge, and prepare students for the next school year. This work is designed to cultivate our students' love of reading, curiosity, and background knowledge. There are two parts to the High School's summer reading assignment:

1. *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah (required for all students)

All students are required to read *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah. In conjunction with this required text, students must complete a set of reading comprehension questions ([linked here](#)) and be prepared to discuss *Born a Crime* when they return to school. ***Students will be assessed on their reading within the first week of school and therefore must arrive having completed their reading with care and thought.***

2. Student Choice (each student must select and complete at least two books from the suggested reading list)

All High School students are also **required** to select and read **at least two books** from the [attached list](#) of Student Choice books. They must complete the [attached reading log](#) to keep track of the Student Choice book they read, as well as any additional books they read, and be prepared to discuss one additional selected book upon their return in the fall.

Purchasing and Accessing Books

All students must purchase copies of *Born a Crime* and bring them to school on the first day. Students should be highlighting and annotating as they read this book.

Student Choice books may be purchased, read on a Kindle/electronic reader, or borrowed from the library. Additionally, Student Choice books are available on the online platform Bookshare (www.bookshare.org). Please refer to the attached [Bookshare login guide](#).

As an added incentive to keep up reading over the summer, the Upper School class that reads the most books on average by September 6 will win an ice cream party!

We wish everyone a relaxing and wonderful summer, filled with adventures and laughter. Please work with your child to help with the selection of books and with the pacing of reading assignments so that it does not become overwhelming. Do not hesitate to reach out to Upper School Head Sam Keany, Assistant Upper School Head Emily Kuntz, or either of us with questions this summer.

Best,
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