

UNION VALE MIDDLE SCHOOL
1657 East Noxon Road, Lagrangeville, NY 12540
Home of the RAYS
Phone: (845)-223-8600

Middle School: Summer Reading
INCOMING 8th GRADERS
2018-2019

Dear Parents and Students:

The long, leisurely days of summer provide the perfect opportunity for families to continue to support the development of lifelong reading habits by helping students explore many great books. We are all aware that reading a number of books and magazines over the summer helps students to hold on to the many literacy skills that they have gained throughout the years. In addition to continuing to support independent choice in reading this summer, we are also asking students joining the 8th grade community to prepare for the fall with a powerful and thought provoking novel in which all students will read and engage.

This summer, incoming 8th grade students at UVMS will be provided with the unique opportunity for a, "one book, one community" summer read. This single novel will help to build a unifying experience in ideas, theme, and vocabulary for the entire 8th grade team and will set this group of students on a path that both builds their community and prepares them to start the year with focus. The novel *The Misfits* by James Howe, is this one book. The book will be distributed to all incoming 8th grade students this year, prior to leaving 7th grade with the understanding that they will read it this summer and spend some time reflecting upon it. When they return as 8th graders in the fall, they will bring the novel back with them and embark upon expanded discovery and understanding of it, with their English class.

We thank you for your support in helping our students to become lifelong readers and thinkers. We look forward to beginning the 8th grade year with this common experience!

Thank you,

Grade 8 English Teachers