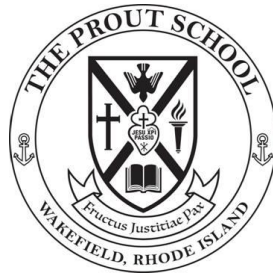


Prout School Summer Reading 2017



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Prout School encourages students and families to continue reading during the summer months. Literacy research has shown that students often tend to experience the “summer slide” which is a slowing down in reading abilities, vocabulary, comprehension, and focus. This phenomenon is a tendency for students to lose some of the achievement gains they made the previous school year by not reading over the summer. This summer slide will frequently cause students to be less prepared for the academic expectations of the next school year. We want ALL students to have the same chance for academic success from the very first day of school!

Summer reading matters in other ways, too. “Reading empowers critical thinking skills. It can enhance empathy and lead to greater understanding of people who are different from ourselves, and it can help us appreciate other points of view”. (California Library Association) When parents/guardians are able to read the books their children have been assigned for summer reading, the experience can foster wonderful family discussions and build great reading memories. Familial modeling the importance of year round reading will encourage teenagers in becoming lifelong readers.

Reading is an important part of everyday life! The more our students read, the better readers they will be. If you have any questions pertaining to the summer reading, please feel free to contact Miss Mary Hoyt: mhoyt@theproutschool.org.



SUMMER READING 2017 ENGLISH TEN CP

***The Pearl* – John Steinbeck**

***Night* – Elie Wiesel**

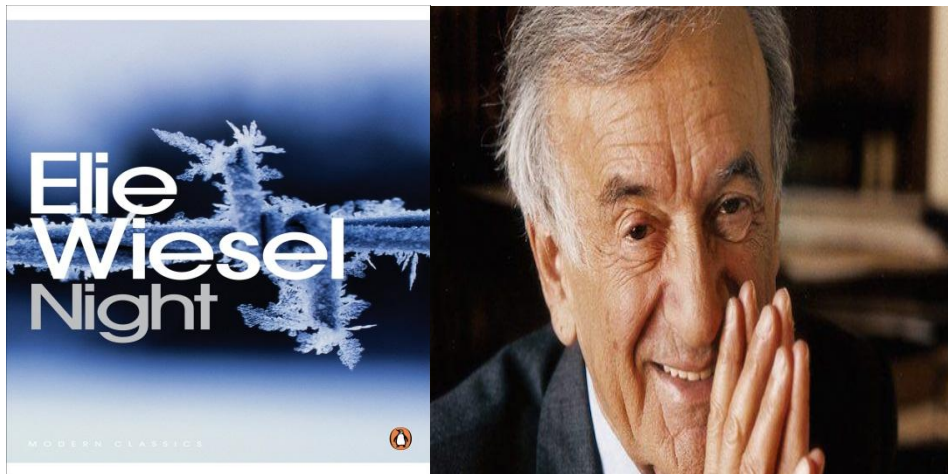
READ THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOOKS AND THE GUIDING QUESTIONS
BEFORE YOU BEGIN READING EACH BOOK.

Keep the questions at hand as you read and take notes, in the books (if they are yours) or on paper. **Answers to the questions SHOULD NOT be written out.** Guiding questions are just to help students with more effective comprehension.

Assessment – first full day of classes:

You will be asked to respond to short answer questions related to the Guiding Questions, as well as objective questions.

***NIGHT* by Elie Wiesel**



About the author (taken from the book cover)

Elie Wiesel is the author of more than forty internationally acclaimed works of fiction and nonfiction. He has been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the United States of America Congressional Gold Medal, the French Legion of Honor and in 1986, the Nobel Peace Prize. He is a professor at Boston University.

Assignment:

Read **NIGHT** and answer the guiding questions. They will not be collected, but will help in recalling the events in the novel /memoir. A quiz will be given on the novel in the beginning of the school year.

Brief summary of text:

Born in Sighet, Transylvania, Elie Wiesel was a young boy when the Nazis invaded his town and took the Jews as prisoners. Elie and his family are sent to the concentration camps and his mother and two sisters are killed immediately. Wiesel and his father experience the ugliness of humanity as they struggle to survive the Nazi death camps.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Describe Wiesel's relationship with God in the beginning of the story and at the end. How does it change and why?
2. When Moche the Beadle escapes the Nazis and returns to Sighet, he tells of the atrocities the Germans are doing to the Jews. Why don't the villagers believe Moche?
3. Explain the scene where Wiesel and his father are going through the camp's selection and witnesses a fire burning in front of them. What would your reaction have been to seeing what Wiesel saw?
4. There are a few instances in the novel when Wiesel experiences the kindness of strangers. Discuss two examples.
5. How does the relationship Wiesel have with his father change throughout novel?

***The Pearl* (John Steinbeck)**



A brief summary: Kino, a young Mexican Indian pearl diver, finds a great pearl and dreams of a better life for his poor family. He soon learns that money often causes new problems rather than solve old ones.

Author: John Steinbeck (1902-1968) was born in Salinas, California in 1902. He worked as a laborer during the Depression. *The Pearl* was written after Steinbeck made an extensive journey to Mexico's Baja peninsula in the late 1930s with a scientist friend to study the region's folklore, mythology, and ecology. He is also the author of *Of Mice and Men*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *East of Eden*, and others. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962. His works deal with the human struggle to maintain dignity in the face of social injustice and/or loneliness.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. What different things does the pearl symbolize?
2. How is "poison" used both literally and figuratively?
3. How is Kino's race exploited by others?
4. The novel traces the progress of Kino's soul or spirit, using the pearl as its symbol. How do he and the pearl change throughout the book?
5. How does the novel show the central theme of anti-materialism—that human happiness cannot be bought by material wealth?

