

Dear 9th grade English student:

We are excited to meet you next fall as you begin your high school journey through Martha's Vineyard Regional High School! Like your previous teachers, we value independent reading as part of our curriculum. We believe that reading nurtures empathy and broadens perspective. It allows us to understand different cultures, beliefs, and experiences, fostering compassion and understanding in an increasingly diverse world. Reading also fuels our imagination and cultivates a sense of wonder. As you navigate through your teenage years and beyond, empathy and perspective will prove invaluable in building meaningful relationships and being a positive force in society.

All incoming 9th graders are expected to read three books this summer, and at least one of the three should be selected from [the attached list](#). All students are expected to come prepared to talk/write about one of the books they read.

*If you are taking **Honors English**, you are expected to take notes on one of your books. You can find a [note-taking sheet here](#) that outlines the specific elements you should pay attention to as you read, and you will submit your notes on the first day of class.

You can find a copy of this letter posted to the school's website at mvrhs.org/category/summer/. If you have any questions about this assignment, please do not hesitate to contact us at the email addresses below.

So find a cozy (or sunny) spot if you can, and let the books you choose this summer transport you to a world beyond your own. Challenge yourself to explore genres you haven't delved into before, and remember that the joy of reading lies in finding what resonates with you.

Wishing you a summer filled with captivating stories and endless inspiration — we'll see you in September!

Sincerely,

Ms. Emily Cavanagh (ecavanagh@mvrhs.org)

Ms. Kate Hennigan (khennigan@mvrhs.org)

Ms. Galen Brown (gbrown@mvrhs.org)