

Dear Incoming 6th grade Students and Parents,

I wish you a happy and healthy summer. Part of a great summer is having the extra time to read. You already know that the more you read, the more you learn, the better you write, and the more knowledge you have to share.

6th Grade Summer Reading Requirements

Students need to read *Out of My Mind* this summer.

Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom-the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged, because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it ... somehow.

When you return to school in August, you will be discussing and working together to dig deeper into *Out of My Mind*. You will be tested on the book and required to do a piece of writing during the first several weeks of school.

I look forward to meeting with you in August. Happy reading!

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