

June 19, 2008

Dear Rising Juniors,

As you know we ask all our students – from incoming freshmen to rising seniors – to do some summer reading and thinking about books. You are about to enter one of the most challenging and exciting years of reading in your life with a particular focus on the literature of the United States of America.

To start you off on this adventure we are asking you to read *The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald (<http://tinyurl.com/4jneyf>) and *Breaking Free* by Herschel Walker (<http://tinyurl.com/3ohc8c>). The former you should have heard of as it's a classic and a vitally important part of American literary culture. The latter is a recent book by a contemporary author and sportsman whose own personal and medical challenges provide him with his raw material.

The books above are compulsory as are the guiding questions you will find enclosed and posted online – you are required to have read them and completed the questions before school starts again in the fall – but there are many other books that might help and you might enjoy. If you would like any other suggestions for summer reading we in the English Department would love to help you find something suitable – just click on “Summer Reading” at yuhsb.org and you will find this letter and a number of suggestions. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall and, until then, on behalf of the English Department I'd like to wish you a healthy and happy summer.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Dan Friedman

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