Selection:  *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Why Do We Need A Summer Assignment?
The key to being a great reader is to read extensively, much like any other skill reading comprehension improves with practice. Reading the work of great writers also aids students by expanding vocabulary, sentence structure, and thinking processes; therefore, the key to being a great writer is exposure to great writing. Reading is not something that we want you to do just during the school year, as life-long learners are also life-long readers. Reading allows students to digest ideas prior to discussing and interpreting writing techniques in class. It also reinforces the skills students have already learned and keeps them in touch with great literature.

Learning Expectations:
- Read a literary work of fiction for critical analysis and historical context.
- Understand how a writer uses language to create message and meaning.
- Think critically about literature and the thoughts communicated by the author.
- Explore your own beliefs, ideas, and feelings regarding literature and be prepared to write as well as discuss an evidence based analytical viewpoint from a literary work of fiction.

Assignment: Read the assigned novel in its entirety. Be prepared to write, discuss, and analyze the text upon the beginning of the school year when class begins. Note-taking and/or annotating as you read and reflect on the text is highly recommended. You can use sticky notes if you have a borrowed or library copy.

Background Information – *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee was published in 1960, was widely read upon publication, eventually winning the Pulitzer Prize, and became a staple of the American literary cannon. The plot and characters are loosely based on Lee's observations of her own childhood in Monroeville, Alabama, in 1936, when she was 10 years old. The story is narrated by the six-year-old character Jean Louise Finch. The novel is a work of Southern Gothic American Literature and encompasses the themes of racial tolerance, prejudice, class, culture, and gender roles.

Due Date: This reading assignment is to be completed by the first day of class.

Connections: In addition to numerous assignments, ongoing reference and instruction will be tied to this book throughout the year. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS BOOK IN ITS ENTIRETY.

If you have questions over the summer, please email us:

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Please join the Pre AP 2020-2021 Google Classroom with

Code: e4q514q

It is a great way to ask questions and get answers during the summer from us!