We strongly recommend you read one of the following three books. Reading helps increase/improves imagination, focus and concentration, memory, communication, and language development.

If you choose to read one of these books you will participate in an activity the first day of school. Should you choose not to read one of these selections, students will focus on reading strategies and practices during class while the others are doing the activity.

You should consider keeping informal notes about favorite parts, characters, etc. Every student will be required to do a group project based on the summer work, be it the novel or the reading strategies and practices completed on the first day of school.

Any questions, please email hayley.dant@boone.kyschools.us with Summer Assignment in the subject line.

** Please note that the novels below may contain mild violence, language, or other mild content. Please consider using sources like Common Sense Media or Goodreads or others to evaluate and choose the best novel.

**Killing Mr. Griffin**, by Lois Duncan

Mr. Griffin is the strictest teacher at Del Norte High, with a penchant for endless projects and humiliating his students. Even straight-A student Susan can't believe how mean he is to the charismatic Mark Kinney. So when her crush asks Susan to help a group of students teach a lesson of their own, she goes along. After all, it's a harmless prank, right?

But things don't go according to plan. When one "accident" leads to another, people begin to die. Susan and her friends must face the awful truth: one of them is a killer.

**The Red Queen**, by Victoria Aveyard

Mare Barrow's world is divided by blood - those with common, Red blood serve the Silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a poor, rural village, until a twist of fate throws her in front of the Silver court. Before the king, princes, and all the nobles, she discovers she has an ability of her own. To cover up this impossibility, the king forces her to play the role of a lost Silver princess and betroths her to one of his own sons. As Mare is drawn further into the Silver world, she risks everything and uses her new position to help the Scarlet Guard - a growing Red rebellion - even as her heart tugs her in an impossible direction. One wrong move can lead to her death, but in the dangerous game she plays, the only certainty is betrayal.

**Between Shades of Gray**, by Ruta Sepetys

Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life--until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive?