

**Four Rivers Charter Public School**  
**Incoming 11<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**2016 SUMMER READING**

*Your summer reading includes one book for History and one book for English.*

## **Modern World History**

**Mr. Wilson**

This summer you are asked to read Part 1 of *Abina and the Important Men* by Trevor Getz and Liz Clark. The book should be signed out with Mr. Wilson in room 103. If you are unable to pick up the book before you leave for the summer you can pick it up in the office at Four Rivers before August 1.

Abina is a graphic novel, or more accurately a graphic history. This means that it reads like a comic book, but deals with non-fiction historical content. The entire book is based on a single primary document, the transcript from Abina's court case. The transcript itself is Part 2. Part 3 is historical context about the region. You may browse parts 2 and 3, but we will read them together at the start of the year. There is no written assignment over the summer beyond reading but as you read you should consider the following questions:

### **About the book**

- Whose story is this?
- Is this a "true" story?
- Is this "authentic" history?

### **More generally**

- What is it that historians actually do?
- What can this story teach us about the human experience?
- How does the story contribute to our understanding of the world in which we live?

## **Comparative Literature**

**Mrs. Plath**

For your English summer reading, read at least one text from the list of world literature below. Please choose a book you haven't read before.

When you return in the fall, you'll be asked to write an analytical essay on this text to pre-assess your analytical writing skills. This essay will not be graded, but it will be an

important element to help me plan my writing instruction. You will be able to choose your topic, so as you read, you should be thinking about a topic.

Possible essay topics include:

- Main character's change over time
- Themes of the text
- Characteristics of the author's style and their effects on the book

You may wish to take notes on this topic as you read so you're prepared for the essay in the fall.

**Note: You need to have access to these books at the beginning of school. Borrowing a book from the library in July, reading and returning it, then having nothing but fond memories in September? Not helpful.**

List of Texts:

Achebe, Chinua - *Things Fall Apart*  
Allende, Isabel - *The House of the Spirits*  
Cervantes, Miguel de - *Don Quixote*  
Dante - *Inferno*  
Dumas, Alexandre - *The Three Musketeers*  
Esquivel, Laura - *Like Water for Chocolate*  
Flaubert, Gustave - *Madame Bovary*  
Hugo, Victor - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*  
Kingston, Maxine Hong - *The Woman Warrior*  
Kundera, Milan - *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*  
Marquez, Gabriel Garcia - *Love in the Time of Cholera*  
Martel, Yann - *Life of Pi*  
Murakami, Haruki - *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*  
Nabokov, Vladimir - *Lolita*  
Pamuk, Orhan - *Snow*  
Pasternak, Boris - *Doctor Zhivago*  
Remarque, Erich Maria - *All Quiet on the Western Front*  
Rostand, Edmond - *Cyrano de Bergerac*  
Rushdie, Salman - *Midnight's Children*  
Tan, Amy - *The Joy Luck Club*  
Thackeray, William - *Vanity Fair*  
Voltaire - *Candide*