



GEMS Winchester School Dubai

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23rd June 2023

Re: WSD Summer Reading Challenge

Dear parents,

'Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers.' - Charles W. Eliot

GEMS Winchester School, Dubai, brings you the Summer Reading Challenge - an exciting reading adventure for students from KS3 and KS4 to encourage them to read for pleasure, improve their skills in English Language, and become confident readers.

Reading encourages our students to build vocabulary, derive connections between stories and their own lives, and understand how different people think about different things. Students who read are able to think more, express themselves more freely, and become independent learners. A student's reading skills are important to their success in school as it will allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their communication and language skills. In addition, reading can be a fun and imaginative time, opening doors to all kinds of new worlds for them.

The theme of the challenge is Fiction Novels, and **students must read any one book** from the range of books given during this summer break. They are welcome to read many more from the recommended reading list provided. Below is the link for KS3 and KS4 students to access the vast range of fascinating books and engaging activities in store for them during this summer break.

KS3: <https://sway.office.com/SZzP3BJGCACMhOga?ref=Link>

KS4: <https://sway.office.com/Z7CXWFHb7DS3t9VB?ref=Link>

Students are to use the active reading skills/strategies they have learned throughout the year to navigate through the texts. **After reading, each student is required to choose a task** from the plethora of interesting and engaging activities. The completed work must be submitted by 30th August 2023, online through TEAMS or can be submitted to the respective English teacher during lesson.

We also hope that students will wish to upload pictures of themselves reading on holiday in wild and wonderful places; they can do this by tagging WSD on @GEMS Winchester School Dubai on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/GEMSWinchesterSchoolDubai>) and @GEMSWinchesterSchool on Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/gemswinchesterschool/>), including the hashtag **#WSDREADS**; for students that don't have social media, they can email leena.a_wsd@gemsedu.com with their pictures. We'd love to see the most creative and exotic places that our students find to read their books! Best work will get certificates and house points!



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Parents can support reading during the summer break by encouraging children to discover the joy of reading varied sources. Kindly:

- assist your ward in reading and completing the post-reading task
- read out the sections in which your ward has difficulty
- ensure your ward has completed the post-reading activity

We request parents to motivate their children to read and take forward the challenge which makes them empathetic, knowledgeable and also stimulates their imagination.

We wish all students a very happy summer break and encourage them to read on to discover the joy of learning something new every day.

Warm regards,

Sandra Gomes

Ligi Cibu

Leena Atkins

Rob Gauntlett

Reading Lead

Director of Studies

Head of Secondary

Vice-Principal