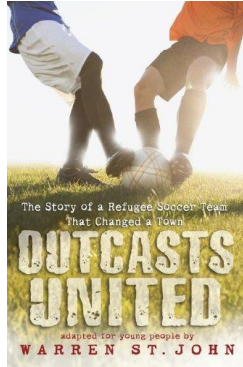


Robert R. Lazar Middle School
Summer Reading 2018
One School, One Book
Grades 6-8



Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town (YA Version)

By Warren St. John ISBN-13: 978-0385741958

Summer is a time that should find us looking forward to reading and remembering that a good book can be fun as well as informative. Research tells us that reading has profound cognitive consequences. Cunningham and Stanovich (2003) report that independent, out-of-school reading makes a large and unique contribution toward reading ability, aspects of verbal intelligence, and general knowledge about the world. By encouraging students to read over the summer, we support the goal of creating lifelong readers.

This year, **all** students at Robert R. Lazar Middle School will read the same title in the hope that it may promote a greater unity among students and a desire to be part of collaborative conversations in September. By reading one title across grades 6-8, the love of reading can be shared with the entire school.

This year's selection is *Outcasts United (YA Version)* by Warren St. John. Based on the adult bestseller, *Outcasts United: An American Town, a Refugee Team, and One Woman's Quest to Make a Difference*, this young people's edition is a complex and inspirational story about the Fugees, a youth soccer team made up of diverse refugees from around the world, and their formidable female coach, Luma Mufleh. *Outcasts United* explores how the community changed with the influx of refugees and how the dedication of Luma Mufleh and the entire Fugees soccer team inspired an entire community.

Directions: Students should read this year's selection, *Outcasts United*. Students should be prepared to analyze, discuss, and participate in individual and group activities on the first day of school. Parents are encouraged to read along with their child as well to foster discussion about the reading.

Copies of the text are available through the Montville Township Library. If a copy is not available, you may choose to put a "hold" on the book, and you will be notified when the book is available.

Please see or call the Montville Township Library if you need help locating a title (973) 402-0900 ext. 227.