



From The Desk of  
Dr. Maxwell

Dear Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student,

Reading is a very important part of your experience here at Theodore Roosevelt School and I hope each of you will become a lifelong pleasure reader. Summer is a time for recreational reading, for exploring new books or reading those that you never had time for during the busy school year. Although I hope you will read voraciously this summer, **I expect that you read Walter Dean Myers' book "Scorpions" and one other book of your own choosing. This is a total of two books.** You may choose a book from the Connecticut Summer Reading List (which is attached) or explore books at your local library or ebooks that can found online for great new titles and classics.

You are **required** to read Walter Dean Myers' "**Scorpions**" so that you will be ready to discuss it during the first week of school. This book will be given to you before the end of the school year. **YOU MUST RETURN IT TO ME, ALONG WITH YOUR PROJECT, ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.** Once you have completed reading "Scorpions", you are to complete a visual project which focuses on the main character. This project must contain the following:

1. Character Background-Where is he from? What type of student is he? Is he rich or poor?
2. Family-Who were his family and friends?
3. Three adjectives that describe him
4. How does this character feel about his surroundings? How do you know? (Use the page number that helps you figure this out)
5. Draw or print four pictures that describes the main character (example if you read a story about a character that likes cars, carpentry, cakes and cookies, you could draw/find pictures of cars, tools, cakes and cookies to describe the character)

This can be put onto a poster board and you can make it as colorful and vivid as you like. This **mandatory** project is due the first day of school and you will discuss your project with the class. This is worth 100 points and it is mandatory.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [cmaxwell@bridgeportedu.net](mailto:cmaxwell@bridgeportedu.net)

Happy Reading!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Maxwell

