

## 7th Grade

Dear student,

This year you will be required to read one common text that will be incorporated into both your ELA and social studies classes. It is called *Ties that Bind, Ties that Break* by Lensey Namioka. Set in China in 1911, *Ties that Bind, Ties that Break* is about a young girl named Ailin who, like many girls in China at this time, is expected to endure an ancient and very painful practice called foot binding. This book will immerse you in the customs and traditions of China while also introducing you to a strong female character. You are also required to complete one of three project options (detailed below) and bring it to school on August 2nd.

You are not restricted to reading this one book. We encourage you to read all summer long. Attached is a list of *suggested* books that you may read in addition to *To Ties that Bind, Ties that Break*. You may select titles on your own that are on your reading/grade level.

Enjoy your summer reading,

ELA Department

### Final Project Options

You have read a book about a Chinese girl who chooses not to have her feet bound and has to live with the consequences brought on by this decision. Choose one of the following projects and bring the completed product to school on August 2nd.

1. Choose an important scene from the book and rewrite it from another character's point of view to show this character's feelings, perspective, and thoughts in that part of the book. Your narrative (your rewritten scene) should be at least one page long.
2. Write a letter from Ailin to her family OR write a letter from one of her family members to Ailin. If you choose to write a letter from the perspective of Ailin, you need to explain to the recipient (her whole family or a specific family member) of your letter why she left and how she feels about the choices she has made. If you choose to write from the perspective of a family member, your letter should include how Ailin's choices made that family member feel and how they were impacted by her decision. Your letter should be at least one page long.
3. Create a collage depicting a theme or idea in the book. Explain how this collage depicts the theme. Use colorful pictures from magazines or draw your own pictures. Your explanation should be at least one page long.