

## English Summer Assignment

Incoming Sig Juniors: Your IB English HL / AP Lit assignment for the summer is to read *All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy. Please buy the Vintage Books edition; it's available on Amazon and at Barnes and Noble.

### Active Reading:

In addition to reading for sense and enjoyment, you should be an *active* reader. Annotate. Write in your book.

How? Underline or highlight passages you like, think about why they appeal to you, note reasons in the margin. Write brief comments or questions in the margins. Don't recognize a word? Circle it, and look it up later. Confused by something? Underline it or draw a box around it, put a question mark in the margin, and return to think about it.

Also pay attention to the author's diction and syntax, imagery, motifs. Notice any symbols? What's up with all the blood? What's interesting about horses? Who ARE these characters? What qualities distinguish them? Do NOT Google, looking for "answers." Your engagement with the book is more valuable than anything you can grab online and spit back. Active reading and critical thinking are brain exercise, so do that work yourself.

I think you'll find this an enjoyable read. Return to school in August prepared to discuss on the first day. Bring your annotated book with you.

Enjoy a well-earned summer break!

--Ms. Grant