INSERT SCHOOL LETTERHEAD HERE

DATE

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome! I am thrilled to be teaching your child this year in my reading strategies class! We utilize the *Xtreme Reading* program*.* *Xtreme’s* reading strategies are powerful, and most importantly, they empower students!

Your child was enrolled in my class after careful consideration and evaluation. We look closely at test scores, reading data, and district assessments when placing students. We feel your child will grow and excel with the tools and strategies learned in my reading strategies class.

Literacy is an essential component of 21st century learning and success. Sadly, literacy instruction often stops after elementary school. Middle school students are rarely taught directly *how* to infer, paraphrase, and comprehend written information. The strategies we use in my reading class are intended to significantly increase vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. A few of the many reading strategies we work with include Word Mapping, Self-Questioning, and Paraphrasing.

I’m commonly asked, “Why is *Xtreme* spelled without an E?” Excellent question! *Xtreme Reading* uses “Xtreme Sports” as a metaphor. These sports, commonly seen at the X Games, include skateboarding, snowboarding, and skiing. Much like Xtreme Sports athletes, *Xtreme Reading* requires students to put forth extreme effort, practice consistently, collaborate with classmates, and work with me (the “coach”) to emerge confident, skilled readers.

Our strategies class is a small group of 12 or less, which allows for significantly individualized instruction. Students need to **bring a pencil to class daily**. Students will also need to bring a **spiral notebook** to leave in class. We use this for our daily journal entries. I will supply students with a class binder, folders, and novels. Our class is always in desperate need of tissues and hand sanitizer ☺.

More information regarding my grading scale will follow in the coming weeks with progress reports. Please visit my website via the -insert school name- homepage for important documents and helpful links! Contact me anytime with questions or concerns- -insert email- or -insert phone number-. I look forward to a wonderful year! Thank you for your support!

Respectfully,

-sign here-

NAME

TITLE