



Mrs. Julie Tognoni
Literacy and Social Studies
Alexander Dawson School
Office Telephone: (702) 949-3600 ext 213
E-mail: jtognoni@adsrm.org

September 14, 2009

Dear Parents,

This week we will begin our author study. It is a great activity to kick off our reading and writing curriculum, because it helps students make the connection between their favorite books and the individuals that wrote them. This in turn, can lead to an increased desire to read and stimulate a student's yearning to write.

The students have already chosen their author and have started their research. The rest of the project includes:

- **OUTLINE:** A pre-formatted outline will be used to gather all useful information and help students to organize their report.
- **REPORT:** Utilizing the outline as a guideline, the students will write a report (both a rough and final draft).
- **NOTE CARDS & POSTER:** Upon completion of their report, students will prepare note cards and a poster for their oral presentation. The poster should include information about each section of the outline and other interesting and relevant facts. The poster should be colorful and contain: illustrations or pictures of the author and characters or books they have written. Pictures may be drawn by the student or printed off the internet.
- **FINAL DUE DATE:** All reports and posters are due on Tuesday, September 22nd. **Please be aware that all reports will be completed in class. However, students will have the option to finish their posters at home.**

Homework Reminders

- Students should be reading at least 30 minutes a night and filling out their reading log.
- Logs should be signed by a parent or guardian and turned in on Friday; reading minutes will be averaged for each team.
- Students should also be studying for vocabulary and spelling tests on Friday.
- Students will enjoy working on their Great American Award requirements and Word Study Contracts when their other work is completed.
- Please continue to check julietognoni.com for assignments and reminders.

Thanks for all your support!

Mrs. Tognoni