List five facts about Louis Sachar—use books/the internet to help you:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Name five of Sachar’s books:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
Extract from “Fuzzy Mud” – the opening page

Woodridge Academy, a private school in Heath Cliff, Pennsylvania, had once been the home of William Heath, after whom the town had been named. Nearly three hundred students now attended school in the four-story, black-and-brown stone building where William Heath had lived from 1891 to 1917, with only his wife and three daughters.

Tamaya Dhilwaddi’s fifth-grade classroom on the fourth floor had been the youngest daughter’s bedroom. The kindergarten area had once been the stables. The lunchroom used to be a grand ballroom, where elegantly dressed couples had sipped champagne and danced to a live orchestra. Crystal chandeliers still hung from the ceiling, but these days the room permanently smelled of stale macaroni and cheese. Two hundred and eighty-nine kids, ages five to fourteen, crammed their mouths with Cheetos, made jokes about boogers, spilled milk, and shrieked for no apparent reason.

Tamaya didn’t shriek, but she did gasp very quietly as she covered her mouth with her hand.

“He’s got this superlong beard,” a boy was saying, “splotched all over with blood.”

“And no teeth,” another boy added.

They were boys from the upper grades. Tamaya felt excited just talking to them, although, so far, she had been too nervous to actually say anything. She was sitting in the middle of a long table, eating lunch with her friends Monica, Hope, and Summer. One of the older boys’ legs was only inches away from hers.

“The guy can’t chew his own food,” said the first boy. “So his dogs have to chew it up for him. Then they spit it out, and then he eats it.”

“That is so disgusting!” exclaimed Monica, but from the way her eyes shone when she said it, Tamaya could tell that her best friend was just as excited as she was to have the attention of the older boys.

The boys had been telling the girls about a deranged hermit who lived in the woods. Tamaya didn’t believe half of what they said. She knew boys liked to show off. Still, it was fun to let herself get caught up in it.

Summarise the text above. Don’t write it all back out – try to identify the key information the writer wants to get across, and condense it into smaller chunks.
Explain how Sachar has made the school seem disgusting nowadays in paragraph two.

Explain how Sachar makes the man seem frightening in the second half of the extract.
Make up your own story about the man with “the super long beard, splotched with blood” and “no teeth”.
Imagine you have been sent to the desert and instructed to dig holes, all day, every day. Write a description of how you imagine the scene.
You need to learn the meaning and spelling of the following ten words.

1) Desert
2) Punishment
3) Warden
4) Flashback
5) Character
6) Palindrome
7) Dehydration
8) Fortune
9) Salvation
10) Outlaw

Use each word in a sentence in the space below, proving you know what it means.

1) 
2) 
3) 
4) 
5) 
6) 
7) 
8) 
9) 
10)
Extra reading: your homework expectation is to read for twenty minutes a night, every night. Why not try some of the following?
Whether you read your AR book from the school library, or a book from home, you could try to complete some of the following activities.

The idea is that they are a little more creative, and allow you to respond to what you’ve read without having to write an essay or an analysis.

Design a costume for one of the characters. Annotate it, explaining your choices.

Books in a hurry: sum your book up in as few words as possible! Feel free to illustrate your key chosen points.

Design a cover for the book you’ve just read. You could write a blurb for the back.

Imagine you are one of the main characters. Create your social media profile.

Lonely hearts ad: imagine one of the characters in your book is looking for love. Write an advert they place in a newspaper, promoting themselves and explaining what they want from a partner.
A note to parents and carers,

The most important reason to read is because it’s enjoyable – we would like your child to view reading as a luxury and not a chore. Children who read for pleasure in their spare time perform significantly better at school than other pupils. The most important thing you can do for your child is to read with them, or at least to insist that they read themselves.

Ideally, they should read every single day – little and often is the way forward!

Your child’s homework for English is to complete this booklet, to the best of their ability, and to read as much as they can and as often as they can. They should always have a book from the school library, but obviously they can read their own books from home should they wish to do so. They can quiz on the books they read once they return to school.

To support us in helping your child, we ask that you complete the following log at the end of every week so that their English teacher can monitor how often they’re reading at home.

Thank you,

Mr Wootton
Head of English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>What has your child been reading this week?</th>
<th>Parent/carer signature</th>
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