

STEINWAY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 141Q

A NASA Explorer School

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Dear Future Students of 6H1, 6H2, and 6H3:

Congratulations on all of your hard work and your entry into the sixth grade honors program! Students entering classes 6H1, 6H2, and 6H3 are required to read *Scat* by Carl Hiaasen **in addition to** *The View from Saturday* by E.L. Konigsburg.

Scat tells the story of Mrs. Starch, a fearsome biology teacher, who never returned from a field trip to Black Vine Swamp. The principal says she was called away on a "family emergency," but Nick and Marta don't buy it. They think Smoke, the class delinquent, has something to do with her disappearance...and he does, but not in the way that they think. There's a lot more going on in Black Vine Swamp than any one player in this twisted tale can see. And Nick and Marta will have to reckon with an eccentric eco-avenger, a stuffed rat named Chelsea, a wannabe Texas oilman, a singing substitute teacher, and a ticked-off Florida panther before they'll *really* begin to see the big picture.

The attached book report handout will be collected in September and counted as one of the first major grades of the marking period. It is also highly suggested that you take detailed chapter notes so that you can participate in classroom discussions based on the novel in September. Remember, as part of the honors program, you are responsible to read and turn in book report handouts for **both** *The View from Saturday* and *Scat*.

Enjoy your summer...and happy reading!

Best,

The Sixth Grade Honors Teachers