

Dear Drops of Ink staff member,

I am looking forward to having you on our publication staff next year as we continue to grow and improve our magazine, website and social media platforms.

While there is no required summer reading assignment for this course, or any other English class, given how important it is for journalists to read often and stay on top of current events, I strongly encourage you to read as much as you can this summer. If you get a daily newspaper, like the *Chicago Tribune* or *Daily Herald* delivered to your house, read that. If this doesn't apply to you, check out these sources' websites and social media accounts, in addition to those of other great national publications, like *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The Wall Street Journal*. Pay attention to the stories these publications are covering -- they could serve as inspiration for story ideas you come up with -- and how they are writing about them, including their use of sources.

In addition, given that we publish a monthly magazine, read some magazines too. Beyond the story content in these publications, notice their use of pictures, graphics and layout to help tell the story. These visual elements are really important for our work as well.

Lastly, there are several great journalism movies that you could watch (maybe even with other staff members?!) to help prepare you for the upcoming year. Among these are the recent Oscar Best Picture winner, "Spotlight;" a film about the Watergate scandal that took down President Nixon, "All the President's Men;" and a newer documentary on *The New York Times*, "Page One."

I am looking forward to another great year ahead with the *DOI* staff. If you have any ideas for next year based on your reading, or if you have questions about the course, please feel free to contact me anytime this summer.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gluskin
English teacher/*Drops of Ink* faculty adviser
michael.gluskin@d128.org