

## **2011 SUMMER PACKET FOR JUNIOR HONORS**

This summer, as preparation for your Jr. Honors English course, you should do the following:

Read Bulfinch's Mythology, pages 13-27 and 30-32. You will have a test in September on the major gods;

Read Henrik Ibsen's A Doll House in preparation for a test on the plot and major characters. We will also study this play during the year and write on it.

Read (and re-read) William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, then Write a three-page (typed) analytical essay answering my essay question (pg 2).

### **Reading list for 2011-2012**

Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth--plays

John Knowles' A Separate Peace--a novel written during WWII

Dante's The Inferno--a classic written in 1300

Ibsen's A Doll House--a play in modern English

Czuchlewski's Muse Asylum--a Postmodern novel

Highlights from the Survey of British Literature textbook

Vocabulary book

"Shopping"--a short story by Joyce Carol Oates

## **STUDY GUIDE FOR MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**

### Helpful Information

**THESEUS**—Greek leader who conquered the Amazons

**HIPPOLYTA**—leader of the Amazons—Theseus is forcing her to marry him

**PUCK**—known for the practical jokes he loves to play on humans

**BOTTOM**—leader of Workmen who is enchanted by Puck so that his head becomes that of a donkey

**ATHENS**—represents the Rule of Reason; passionate love does not flourish there

**WOODS**—represents the Rule of Passion (anger as well as lust)

**TITANIA**—stubborn, beautiful Queen of the Fairies enchanted by Oberon

**OBERON**—her husband & King of the Fairies who causes her to fall in love with Bottom-as-Donkey

**HERMIA & HELENA**—lovely, young women in love with

**DEMETRIUS & LYSANDER**—handsome, young men who are in and out of love with Hermia & Helena. The couples are interchangeable

**WORKMEN**—comical, well-intentioned workers who want to put on a play in honor of Theseus' wedding to Hippolyta

### ESSAY QUESTION

Shakespeare includes four kinds of love in this play—Passionate, Married, Unrequited (unreturned) and Brotherly (the love between friends). Using quotes from the play to illustrate your ideas, write a 3-page (typed) essay portraying each kind of love. Then write a paragraph or two in which you name Shakespeare's idea of the best kind of love, using quotes to prove your points. **DO NOT RE-TELL THE STORY!** Assume that reader knows the story well and will understand where the quotes originate.