



8TH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Dear Rising 8th grader,

Congratulations on completing your 7th grade year! I hope your summer is filled with safe fun and excitement. While you are vacationing, or enjoying a nice day at the beach, I want you to remember the value of a good book. Reading should not be considered homework. It is a life skill that everyone needs to cultivate in order to live a successful life.

Because Blessed Sacrament School has high expectations for students' literacy development, we have prepared a summer reading list and summer reading assignment for all middle schoolers. All students must complete the summer reading activities before the second week of 8th grade. Assignments are due on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 and will count for a grade in Language Arts.

ASSIGNMENT

Step 1: Choose **2** books from the summer reading list (or choose your own) that you intend to read.

Step 2: Pretend to be one of the main characters from **each** of the two books you read and write a journal entry from the character's point of view. Explain how this character is thinking/feeling about a pivotal event or major decision. Reflect on what is happening as well as how the character may have changed. Each journal entry must be at least a page.

Step 3: Choose one of the two books and write a poem or song that connects to your novel. You can focus on the plot, characters, or personal connections. The poem or song must be 30 lines or longer.

Middle School Summer Reading Suggestions

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret. by Judy Blume

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

A Separate Peace by John Knowles

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green

A Wreath for Emmett Till by Marilyn Nelson

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare

Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers

The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart

Eragon or any book in this series by Christopher Paolini

The Indian in the Cupboard by Lynn Rid Banks

The Black Stallion by Walter Farley

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

Rumble Fish by S.E. Hinton

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Curtis

The Lightning Thief or any book in this series by Rick Riordan

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

June 9, 2017

Dear Families,

It has truly been a pleasure working with your children this past year. They have worked very hard learning new math concepts and practicing skills. Students have utilized the Khan Academy Math Program in the computer room each week in order to further their understanding.

Studies have shown that students lose skills if they do not work on them. In an effort to prevent that, practicing these skills over the summer is required. A student can simply log onto www.khanacademy.org on a home computer, a tablet, or even a cell phone! The student then types in his/her username and password to begin working on whatever skill he or she would like to practice. In addition to practice, Khan Academy offers instructional videos which are very helpful.

Students can establish their own goals, but an hour per week is recommended. I will be tracking progress online and students should have completed 6 hours prior to August 28th. Please feel free to contact me at ewiant@blessedschoolpvd.org should you have any questions. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wiant

Mrs. Wiant

*AJW
5/31/17*

Student Name _____

Khan Academy username _____

Khan Academy password _____

SUPPLIES LIST FOR GRADES 6 – 8

loose leaf paper (This is needed for ALL subjects, so several packages will be needed over the course of the school year.)

pens (blue or black), pencils, erasers, highlighters

1 simple calculator with a square root function

1 small package of graph paper or a graph paper notebook (not a composition style notebook)

3 folders with pockets (for Friday folder, homework, and work in progress/school work)

2 large boxes of facial tissues

1 container of disinfectant wipes

1 USB flash drive

1 pencil sharpener

ear buds for computer use

pencil case for above supplies (Pens, pencils, erasers, etc. get lost and broken when not kept all together in one place or when loose in backpacks. Ear buds can be kept in the pencil case as well.)

book covers - All textbooks and workbooks must be covered. Most textbooks are large, so please purchase only 'jumbo' sized book covers. Workbooks need paper covers. Any paper will suffice; however, paper covers may be purchased in school for \$0.25 each.

five(5) one subject notebooks for vocabulary, religion, Spanish, social studies, math

three 2-inch binders – one for science, one for ELA, and one for math

one (1) composition notebook for ELA journal

back pack

All students must purchase assignment pads (planners) from the school during the first week of school.

The cost is \$ 5.00.

Please be aware that each student is to have a novel with him/her at all times.

CJW
6/12/17