

Entering 6th Grade (2019-2020)
Middle School Language Arts Summer Reading

Required Reading: You should read two books from the list below. You will take an Accelerated Reader Quiz on each book when you get back to school in August. If you write (by hand) one page of notes for each book, you are free to use those notes on the AR quizzes.

Book List:

Black Beauty, Anna Sewell
Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Roald Dahl
Chomp, Carl Hiaasen
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie, Jordan Sonnenblick
Hatchet, Gary Paulsen
Hoot, Carl Hiaasen
The Horse and His Boy, C.S. Lewis
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis
The Magician's Nephew, C.S. Lewis
Maniac Magee, Jerry Spinelli
My Side of the Mountain, Jean Craighead George
The Strange Case of Origami Yoda, Tom Angleberger
Stuart Little, E.B. White
The Watsons Go to Birmingham, Christopher Paul Curtis
Where the Red Fern Grows, Wilson Rawls
The Willoughbys, Lois Lowry

For *one* of the books, you must complete one of the following projects on your chosen book. You have lots of time to complete this project, so it should be your best work and set the tone for your sixth-grade year. You should bring your project to school with you on the first day of class.

- Option 1: A soundtrack to accompany your book. Burn a CD of the songs that fit the book in terms of its characters, themes, setting, mood, tone, etc. Create a CD

jacket with a list of the songs. Include the lyrics to the song and several sentences telling why you made each musical selection. Your selections should be BTCS appropriate.

- Option 2: A graphic novel (a comic book for grown-ups). Use your artistic talents to create an original piece of work based on your book. Use all the techniques of graphic novels; for instance, dialogue bubbles above characters, different fonts, etc.
- Option 3: A children's book based on the book. Imagine that you are trying to get the important elements of your book across to a second or third grader. What pictures would you include? How would you change the language to make it easier for children?
- Option 4: A series of correspondence (letters, emails, IM's, phone conversations) between characters in the book. What information would this correspondence contain that could shed more light on the characters? (Make it look real!)
- Option 5: A series of poems (and even pictures, if you're a good artist or photographer) that relate to the book's characters, themes, tone, setting, etc.
- Option 6: A family tree of key characters with biographies and character descriptions based on your observations and evidence from the book
- Option 7: An interview with characters of a novel. (Interview should be written and recorded.)

- Option 8: An original skit or screenplay based on the book or an important portion of the book.

Please Note: The book chosen for Summer Reading should *not* be a book that you have previously read *nor* should it be a book on which you have already taken an Accelerated Reader (AR) quiz. If you have are a new student or you have already read everything on the list, please contact Mr. DiGeorgio at:

digeorgio@blessedtrinitycatholicschool.org

Recommended Practice: If you maintained an average of a C or lower in 5th grade English, then I strongly advise you to work through this book over the summer.

M.A. Hockett's *The Language Mechanic: Tuning Up English with Logic*. The Critical Thinking Co., 2001. \$19.99. ISBN-10: 0894557610 ISBN-13: 978-0894557613

If you prefer to purchase a used copy, please verify that the workbook is not already complete before buying.