

Grades 6 - 8 Summer Reading Work
Summer 2023-2024
Google Classroom for grades 6,7,8
Code: 7xbn464

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer is almost here! At the School of the Cathedral, we believe that summer is a crucial time to keep our students engaged in learning and to prevent the “summer slide”. This summer slide can be avoided by ensuring that children are as engaged as possible in whatever they choose to read — the goal is to read everyday!

Please find the page (below) pertaining to the grade your child will be entering in Fall 2023. Each page has grade specific information about reading during the summer. All reading and note-taking are due on the first day of school.

Reading over the summer should be fun and encompass a variety of high interest books at your child’s reading level. We encourage your child to also read through different mediums — print books, audiobooks, ebooks, magazines, newspapers, reading to a sibling, etc.

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN UP FOR A PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD
(Link is available on the school website)

Sincerely,

Grades 6 & 7:
Angela Barton
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Grades 7 & 8:
Randi O'Connor
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Incoming 6th Grade Summer Work

REQUIRED NOVEL

1. Book #1 - *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer (Young Readers Edition)
2. Book #2 - Black Eyed Susan choice book. List at the end of this doc.

NOVEL MUST BE PURCHASED (not borrowed from the library) AS IT WILL BE USED IN CLASS

While you read, focus on the **CHARACTERIZATION** of William. Ask yourself these questions as you read:

1. What are the character's desires?
2. How does the character struggle as a result of her/his desires?
3. What are the personality traits of the character?
4. How does the character view herself/himself?
5. How do others view the character?
6. What do you think about the character's choices?
7. How do the character's personality traits affect her/his choices?
8. What is important to the character? Why?
9. What relationships and objects are important to the character? Why?
10. What do you think about the relationships between characters?
11. What is learned about the main characters through secondary characters?
12. Why did the character act this way?
13. Was it right or wrong for the character to act this way? Why?
14. What did the character get from acting this way?
15. How am I like or unlike the character?
16. How do the character's desires and struggles reveal the author's message?

When you find an answer to or have an idea about one of these questions, write it on a sticky note and stick it in your book on the page where it occurs.

We will be writing about the characterization of William at the beginning of the school year.

Incoming 7th Grade Summer Work

REQUIRED NOVEL

1. Book #1 - *Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed
2. Book #2 - Black Eyed Susan choice book. List at the end of this doc.

NOVEL MUST BE PURCHASED (not borrowed from the library) AS IT WILL BE USED IN CLASS

While you read, focus on **SETTING AND CONFLICT DEVELOPMENT**. Ask yourself these questions as you read:

1. How does the setting put the story in context?
2. How does the setting impact the character and contribute to the mood of the story?
3. How would you describe the type of conflict(s) within the story?
 - person against person
 - person against self
 - person against nature
 - person against time
 - person against society
 - person against fate
4. How does the conflict develop?
5. What actions or events lead to the conflict's resolution?
6. How does the resolution bring a natural, thought-provoking, and / or surprise ending to the story?

When you find an answer to one of these questions, write it on a sticky note and stick it in your book on the page where it occurs.

We will be writing about the conflict in *Amal Unbound* at the beginning of the school year.

Incoming 8th Grade Summer Work

REQUIRED NOVEL

1. Book #1 - *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
2. Book #2 - Black Eyed Susan choice book. List at the end of this doc.

NOVEL MUST BE PURCHASED (not borrowed from the library) AS IT WILL BE USED IN CLASS

While you read, focus on **THEME DEVELOPMENT**. Ask yourself these questions as you read:

1. What enduring understandings or essential questions arise from this story?
2. What are the big themes or lessons learned within this story? What's the gist?
3. How have the lessons learned changed the way I think?
4. What details in the story support the theme?

Remember: The theme of a story is the moral, lesson, or message. It is NOT the main idea, which tells what the story is mostly about.

When you find an answer to one of these questions, write it on a sticky note and stick it in your book on the page where it occurs.

We will be writing about theme development in *The Outsiders* at the beginning of the school year.

Incoming 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Summer Work

YOUR CHOICE

2. Book #2 - Black Eyed Susan choice book. List at the end of this doc.

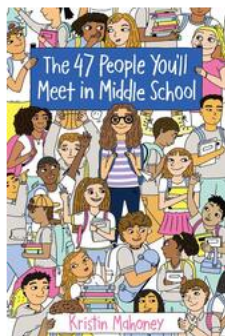
Below are options from the nominees for chapter books and graphic novels. The high school list of novels is also available if you are ready to challenge yourself.

Make sure you fully understand whichever book you select because you will be sharing about it and discussing your book during the first weeks of school.

Suggested chapter books from the Black Eyed Susan nominees:

Attack of the Black Rectangles by A.S. King • *The Door of No Return* by Kwame Alexander • *Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun* by Tola Okogwu • *Pony* by R.J. Palacio • *Rivals* by Tommy Greenwald • *The Secret Battle of Evan Pao* by Wendy Wan-Long Shang • *Troublemaker* by John Cho • *Violets Are Blue* by Barbara Dee • *When the World Was Ours* by Liz Kessler • *Yonder* by Ali Standish • Other Options Listed Below:

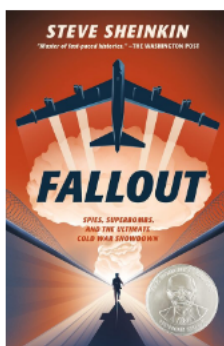
**The 7 People You
Meet in Middle School**
By Kristin Mahoney



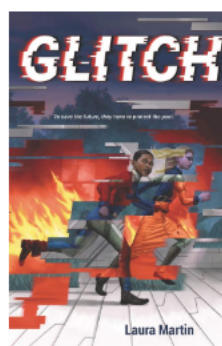
The Brave
By James Bird



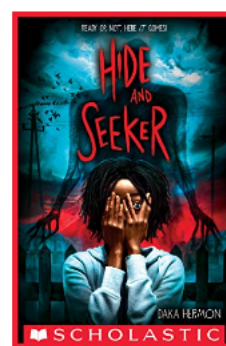
Fallout
By Steve Sheinkin



Glitch
By Laura Martin



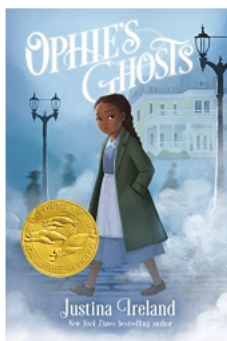
Hide and Seeker
By Daka Hermon



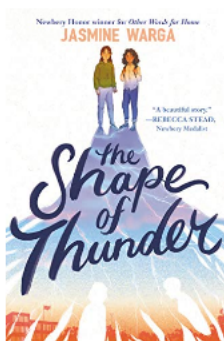
Just Like That
By Gary D. Schmidt



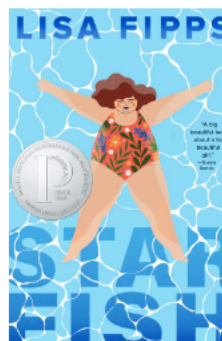
Ophe's Ghosts
By Justina Ireland



The Shape of Thunder
By Jasmine Warga



Starfish
By Lisa Fipps



Summer of Brave
By Amy Noelle Parks



