

8th Grade Summer Reading Assignments



Dear Parents and Students,

Please remember that summer is not a vacation from attending church and gathering to pray. It is most important that we continue sharing our faith with our families and friends throughout this summer season.

Additionally, in an effort to prepare the students for the rigors of middle school and to continue to foster a love of reading, the incoming 8th graders are expected to read **two novels**.

Required Reading:

Incoming eighth graders are required to read ***Murder on the Orient Express*** by Agatha Christie. "While the train is stopped in a Balkan snowdrift, Poirot must solve the problem of the dead American."

As an **assessment for this novel**, students must compose a **five paragraph essay**. It must be **typed** and follow **MLA format**.

Essay Question: How does Agatha Christie build suspense in the novel *Murder on the Orient Express*?

Your essay must include a clear introduction that provides a general overview of the story and its contents. Your introduction should end with a thesis statement that answers the essay question.

For example: Agatha Christie builds suspense in her novel through BLANK, BLANK, and BLANK.

You must also include **three** properly formatted citations from the story that support your main points, and a concluding paragraph.

***They must complete the designated assessment for this novel, which will be due on **Friday, August 23rd** ***

The second novel: (Please choose **ONE** of the two novels listed for your second reading). Students will be assessed on this second novel upon returning to school.

The Call of the Wild by Jack London:

"The 1903 story about the adventures of Buck, a part St. Bernard, part Scotch shepherd that is forcibly taken to the Klondike goldfields where he eventually becomes the leader of a wolf pack."

Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly:

"This book shares the phenomenal true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA whose calculations helped fuel some of America's greatest achievements in space."

In addition to the school issued iPad, students will also need a **composition notebook, a stylus, loose leaf paper, ELA/Literature 2" binder, highlighter, flashcards, blue or black erasable pens and access to a printer**. While not required, it is advised that students purchase a wireless iPad keyboard to make note taking easier.

Sincerely,

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