

## Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School

### Middle School Summer Reading Requirements for the 2021-2022 School Year

For summer 2021, each grade has different lists and requirements. Please read directions for the specific grade regarding books and assignments required.

Many wonderful and popular books are not on these lists. However, the books on the list are chosen because they are relevant to the specific course of study planned for the upcoming year or they meet certain literary criteria—and one element of that is they have shown long-term reader enjoyment and satisfaction. The number of required books is small, so students also have time to read a book (or two~) completely of their choosing (which we greatly encourage!).

Please carefully read the section that relates to your student's 2021-2022 grade level as the teachers may provide reading handouts with assignments to help students remember their books that may also serve as first grades for the first quarter. Also, we are serious about the book assignments, and tests and other work will be administered on the premise that students have read the assigned book, so we encourage parents to help students get and finish the required reading and work.

**Please note: All work is due the first week of school; read the explanation for your grade level for specific due dates. Work may count as quiz, writing, or test grades.**

If you have any questions, please email Kerri Moore at [kmoore@montgomerycatholic.org](mailto:kmoore@montgomerycatholic.org). She can also put you in touch with your student's teacher if needed.

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Like many schools, Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School has a summer reading requirement for several reasons. We want students to maintain the reading comprehension and writing skills they have attained over the previous year and also grow in their sustained reading capacity. Some college courses of study require 200-600 pages of reading a week; that necessitates a student's practice of sustained reading. Also, reading is not only a school skill; it is a life skill. Anything we can do to help students develop a habit of reading is important to us. The work for students listed in these pages is not busy work; these texts and assignments will give the teachers information about the student's skills. The summer work also begins the first unit of study in each grade, and some information learned will recur throughout the year.

All work is due the first week of school; read the explanation for your grade level for specific due dates.

## ALL RISING 7th GRADERS

### Standard 7th Grade English

Choose **one (1)** of the following books to read. You will need to choose a book that you have not read before.

*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, **ISBN-13:** 9780439120425

*I Will Always Write Back* by Martin Ganda and Caitlin Alifirenka, **ISBN-10:** 0316241334

*Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling, **ISBN-10:** 1454932996

*Zane and the Hurricane* by Rodman Philbrick, **ISBN-10:** 0545342392

Then, complete the **7th Grade Summer Reading Q&A** on the next two pages (Pages 3-4). This document is due August 19, 2021. Also, you will have a *quiz* over your chosen novel the first week of school.

**7th Grade Summer Reading Novel Q&A****Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_**Book Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** Answer each of the questions below in **COMPLETE SENTENCES**. You should answer each question with a **MINIMUM** of 3-5 sentences. Your answers should reflect details from the book.

1. What was your favorite part of the book? Why is this your favorite part?

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2. Describe the personality, appearance, and actions of two (2) of the characters.

a. Character #1

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b. Character #2

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3. Write about one connection you made to this book. Did the book remind you of something in your own experiences?

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4. Write one question that you would like to ask a character in the story, and explain why you would ask that question.

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5. List five (5) new vocabulary words that you have learned from your reading. List the page number on which you found the word.

<u>Word New to You</u>	<u>Page #</u>
a. _____	_____
b. _____	_____
c. _____	_____
d. _____	_____
e. _____	_____

6. Define each of the new vocabulary words you have listed above.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Write a 5-10 sentence synopsis of the book. Be sure to include characters, setting, conflict, and resolution.

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8. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Explain why or why not.

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## Honors 7th Grade English

### Read:

*I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives*

by Caitlin Alifirenka & Martin Ganda

ISBN 978-0316241335

### Literary Book Analysis:

Construct a four paragraph literary analysis of the novel. This may be typed/printed or neatly hand-written.

Your paragraph structure should consist of the following:

#### ● Paragraph 1:

Determine the theme or lesson the book presented.

What do you believe is the key lesson or moral that a reader can learn from this novel?

Do you believe that the author intended to communicate this specific lesson?

Which aspects of the novel lead you to believe as you do?

- Use direct evidence from the novel to support your reasons.

#### ● Paragraph 2:

Choose one character from the novel and write a detailed description of him or her.

Include as many aspects of him or her as possible, such as physical appearance, personality type, morals, and values.

- Explain whether the character is dynamic (changes throughout the story) or static (does not change).

#### ● Paragraph 3:

Evaluate the conclusion of the novel. How satisfying was the conclusion of the novel?

For example, was the ending believable, predictable, outrageous, boring?

Were you left hanging with unanswered questions?

Do you think there is another ending that would have been more fitting, appropriate, or satisfying?

#### ● Paragraph 4:

Did the novel inspire you in some way? Would you like to live your life differently after reading the novel? If so, why?

What do you pledge to do after reading this novel? If not, why not?

Due date: August 19, 2021 – Project DUE

1 day late: August 20, 2021 – 25 point deduction (from graded project/max earned = 75%)

2 days late: August 23, 2021 – 50 point deduction (from graded project/max earned = 50%)

3 days late: August 24, 2021 – 75 point deduction (from graded project/max earned = 25%)

Please email me with questions!

[sberg@montgomerycatholic.org](mailto:sberg@montgomerycatholic.org)

All work is due the first week of school; read the explanation for your grade level for specific due dates.

## ALL RISING 8th GRADERS

Congratulations on completing your Seventh Grade year! I hope your summer is filled with excitement and the long needed break you deserve. While you are vacationing, or enjoying the comfort of sleeping an extra hour or two, I do not want you to forget the ability to appreciate a wonderful book. Parents and teachers would agree that inactive reading leads to losing the cognitive skills you have gained throughout the school year. In order to bridge this gap, Montgomery Catholic strongly enforces summer reading activities for all students. All students must complete summer reading activities before their 8th Grade year begins.

Summer reading PROJECT (tangible) assignments are due/graded on **August 19, 2021**. This assignment will count as a project grade for English/Language Arts. **Honors (ONLY)** – must be prepared to make a brief 2-3 minute verbal presentation on the project. All students will have one brief follow-up assignment upon return to school.

**STEP 1: Read** one (1) of the books listed in the chart on Page 7. (All these books are available at Barnes and Noble, amazon.com, or at most public libraries. You may also choose to download your chosen book on any electronic device. However you choose, you must READ!) If you donate your novel to the classroom library, you will receive 10 points extra credit on any novel assignment within the first quarter. NOTE: YOU MAY NOT CHOOSE A BOOK THAT YOU HAVE READ IN A PREVIOUS SCHOOL YEAR.

**STEP 2:** Create a tactile, physical, tangible representation of your book.

(Tactile means “hands-on” and therefore should **NOT** be PowerPoint or computer presentation.)

Options include: poster, mobile, shoebox diorama, tri-fold board, or any other visual representation of the book. This representation of the book **will be** displayed in the classroom. You **WILL** make a presentation on your project at a designated time within the first quarter of the school year.

**Tactile/Tangible visual is DUE** in the classroom **NO LATER THAN August 19, 2021**.

Breakdown of late project work:

Due date: August 19, 2021 – Project DUE

1 day late: August 20, 2021 – 25 point deduction (from graded project/max earned = 75%)

2 days late: August 23, 2021 – 50 point deduction (from graded project/max earned = 50%)

3 days late: August 24, 2021 – 75 point deduction (from graded project/max earned = 25%)

Grade will be a ZERO if not turned in BY August 24, 2021.

**Name** must be written **CLEARLY** on the project and turned-in in the classroom exactly where the teacher indicates. No name = loss of 10 points. Lost or broken projects are the responsibility of the student and points may be deducted.

This project is completely **student creativity**. It will be graded based on creativity as well as how well the book is represented.

Ideas to SHOW or include in your project: book features, characters, plot elements, theme, symbol, etc.

All work is due the first week of school; read the explanation for your grade level for specific due dates.

Choose **one** (1) of the following books to read (not a previously read book); then complete **Step 2** (outlined on Page 6).

<i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park ISBN: <b>978-0547577319</b>	<i>Ghost of Spirit Bear (Spirit Bear, 2)</i> by Ben Mikaelson ASIN: <b>006009009X</b>
<i>Red Kayak</i> by Priscilla Cummings ISBN: <b>978-0142405734</b>	<i>Ender's Game</i> by Orson Scott Card ISBN: <b>978-0812550702</b>
<i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak ISBN: <b>978-0375842207</b>	<i>The Running Dream</i> by Wendelin Van Draanen ISBN: <b>978-0375866289</b>
<i>Prisoner B-3087</i> by Alan Gratz ISBN: <b>978-0375842207</b> (MATURE)	<i>Boy: Tales of Childhood</i> by Roald Dahl ISBN: <b>978-0142413814</b> <b>(NON-HONORS Choice ONLY)</b>
<i>The Devil's Arithmetic</i> by Jane Yolen ISBN: <b>978-0142401095</b>	<i>Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different: Biography</i> by Karen Bumenthal ISBN: <b>978-1250014450</b>
<i>Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry</i> by Mildred Taylor ISBN: <b>978-0142401125</b>	<i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban</i> by Malala Yousafzai ISBN: <b>978-0316322423</b>
<i>Follow the Rabbit Proof Fence</i> by Doris Pilkington ISBN: <b>978-0702233555</b> (MATURE)	<i>The Time Machine</i> by H.G. Wells ISBN: <b>978-0553213515</b>
<i>Bronx Masquerade</i> by Nikki Grimes ISBN: <b>978-0425289761</b> (MATURE)	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i> by Ray Bradbury ISBN: <b>978-1451673319</b>

At Montgomery Catholic, we encourage students to explore their own interests; this book list was designed to encourage you to dive deeper into subjects you may already enjoy. These topics also relate to the 8th grade curriculum and will help prepare you for the year.

All work is due the first week of school; read the explanation for your grade level for specific due dates.