

Dear 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School Parents and Students,

As you head into your exciting summer filled with camps, vacations, parties, swimming, and friends, I encourage you to take some summer reading with you! The more you read, the better!

That being said, when you return to school next year, you will be expected to have read at least **two** books during your summer break. Both of these books have required assignments; one is a writing assignment which is due by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The second required book will be discussed in class during your first week of school.

**1. Due Date - August 1, 2019**

Read one of the following books and then go to the link below to submit a 500 word response by August 1, 2019: [8<sup>th</sup> grade summer reading assignment](#)

***The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*** by Michael Scott

***Vincent and Theo*** by Deborah Heiligman

***Out of the Silent Planet*** by C.S. Lewis

***The Red Badge of Courage*** by Stephen Crane

**2. Due Date - August 15, 2019**

**Required Reading:**

**On Level English: *The Always War* by Margaret Peterson Haddix**

**Honors English: *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck**

We will discuss this book in class starting the first day of school August 15<sup>th</sup>. This is our first unit of study, and you will have projects and assignments to complete based off your reading. I expect you to have your book fully read when you come to class in order to be able to participate.

When you read, you should pay attention to main characters, various settings, plots, and themes presented in the book. After we discuss the book in class, you can also expect to be tested on that material.

In addition to the books you choose from the reading list, please continue reading all summer. At this age, reading levels and interests widely vary. Therefore, I always encourage parents to look at these selections with your child when they are choosing. Focus on the Family has a wonderful website with hundreds of book reviews from a Christian perspective! I encourage you to visit [www.thrivingfamily.com](http://www.thrivingfamily.com) (click on Media, then click on Book Reviews) to preview books before your child reads them. In some cases, you may want to read the book with your child and discuss difficult topics, and don't dismiss reading aloud to each other. They are NOT too old! No matter what they choose to read for pleasure, it is important to simply get them reading. A short, easy read can spark an interest and encourage reluctant readers to keep reading. You can never read too many books! Thank you for your support. I hope you enjoy your summer reading, and I will see you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Miss Sloan Rohrer  
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