

Dear Honors 8th Grade Middle School Parents and Students,

As you head into your exciting summer, 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 **three books** during your summer break. Two books will be from the list below, and one book will be *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. You will need to purchase a physical copy of *The Giver* to bring to class with you.

Please choose **two** books from the list below.

- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie
- *Out of the Silent Planet* by C.S. Lewis
- *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham
- *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- *Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crain

After reading each book, please select one of the projects on the following page to complete. You must do a different project for each book. Any of these choices can be completed **digitally** using Google Slides, Google Docs, Canva, or any other program of your choice. You can also complete one of these assignments using traditional pen and paper. To submit a **hard copy** assignment, you can either hand it in on the first day of school or take a photo and submit it digitally.

Be sure to **include your full name and the title and author of your book in the file name** of your projects. Submit completed projects to the following Google Form. If you do not have a school Google account or access to a Google account, you may bring your completed projects with you to school on the first day. If you do have a Google account, please **do not** email your project to me. These projects are due by the first day of school.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScJSCOVlUmoyD2Dw-qORbanaFjrLOAqPGTaNRmfxq3octMCg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScJSCOVlUmoyD2Dw-qORbanaFjrLOAqPGTaNRmfxq3octMCg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**REQUIRED BOOK: Please read *The Giver* by Lois Lowry.** (Must be read by the first day of class.)

We will discuss this book in class starting on the first day of school. This is our first unit of study, and you will have projects and assignments to complete based on your reading. I expect you to have your book fully read when you come to class in order to be able to participate. You **do not** need to do a choice project for this book.

*\*When you read, you should pay attention to main characters, various settings, plots, and themes present 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 encourage parents to look at these selections with your child when they are choosing. Common Sense Media (<https://www.common Sense Media.org/>) is a wonderful website to preview books before your child reads them. In some cases, you may want to read the book with your child to discuss difficult topics, and don't dismiss reading aloud to each other. They are NOT too old!

Summer is also a great time to continue building grammar skills. A great website for grammar practice is [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com). This is completely optional.

I hope you enjoy your summer reading, and I will see you in August!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lindsay Anderson

[lindsay.anderson@ocssaints.org](mailto:lindsay.anderson@ocssaints.org)

## PROJECT CHOICE BOARD

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Timeline</b></p> <p>Create an illustrated timeline of important events in the novel. You must include at least <b>ten</b> of the most meaningful developments. (Hint: Think of the <b>plot diagram</b> as you complete this assignment.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Postcard</b></p> <p>Illustrate a detailed postcard from one character to another. Include <b>setting information</b> from the novel as well as a <b>letter</b> that would show important details about both characters.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Movie Poster</b></p> <p>Design a movie poster for the novel. Include an <b>important scene</b> as the main image and use <b>details</b> from the story (such as characters) in your text.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Graphic Novel Scene</b></p> <p>Choose a scene from the novel to depict in graphic novel style. Include at least <b>five squares</b> in your new interpretation. Research popular graphic novels to get inspiration for your own.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rewrite the Ending</b></p> <p>Hate the way the story ended? Write a new one! Choose an <b>important scene</b> from the story and plot the rest of the novel from there. Your new version should be at least <b>500 words</b>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Character Sketch</b></p> <p>Pretend you are creating a <b>profile</b> for someone searching for your character. Include an <b>actual sketch, physical details, actions, personality traits</b>, or anything that might help someone find your character.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Book Talk</b></p> <p>Pitch the book to an audience in a <b>detailed 5 minute presentation</b>. You should be persuasive in tone and <b>convince them</b> to read it. Bonus if you <b>record</b> yourself for future students to see!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Letter to the Author</b></p> <p>Write a <b>letter</b> to the author of the novel. Include your <b>opinion</b> of the text as well as <b>any suggestions</b> you would make to improve the story.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Selfie Reactions Timeline</b></p> <p>Create a <b>selfie reactions timeline</b> on a Google slide of one character's reaction to important events in the novel. For each event, take and embed a selfie reaction (surprise, sadness, horror, etc.). Be sure to write about <b>their thoughts on the event, and incorporate a fun design!</b> (Hint: Think of the <b>plot diagram</b> as you complete this assignment.)</p>