

REQUIRED SUMMER READING

Parents and teachers often worry about the perils of “summer slump”. Students spend 10 weeks away from school over the summer and then come back in September seeming behind where they left off in June. Annually, we promote the purchase and use of the Summer Review Workbooks as a way to keep children out of a slump in math and language arts so too much time doesn’t have to be spent on review in the fall. In addition, each summer we make summer reading a requirement for students moving to grades 4-8, as a way to assure these children “exercise” their brains over the summer. A study conducted at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, based on surveys and test results for 1,600 elementary school students, concluded the following:



- Regardless of race, socioeconomic level, or previous achievement, children who read more books over the summer scored higher on reading comprehension tests in the fall than those who did not read over the summer;
- When the school requires summer reading of at least one book, and this is augmented by parental support, there is the likelihood that students will read more over the summer;

Seeing how summer reading is associated with higher achievement, here are our plans at St. Louise School for required summer reading this June through August:

📖 St. Louise students entering grades 4-8 will all be required to do summer reading of novels.

📖 Each reading teacher has prepared a list of novels from which the students entering his/her grade will choose for summer reading. The teacher has also developed a written assignment, to be completed after the reading and due on the first day of reading class in September. The list and written assignment for each grade level are attached.

📖 Novels may be checked out of the local public library or purchased by the family. If using the public library, reserve early since you may need to place a hold and wait for the library to get the book in circulation.

📖 Incoming 8th graders will be required to read 1 assigned book –Peak. Students will also read 2 additional books out of a list of choices, and complete a graphic organizer assignment for each of the 3 novels read.

📖 Incoming 7th graders will be required to read 1 assigned book –The Mysterious Benedict Society. Students will also read 1 additional book out of a list of choices, and complete a graphic organizer assignment for each of the 2 novels read.

📖 Incoming 6th graders will be required to read 2 books out of a list of choices and complete a story map assignment for each book.

📖 Incoming 5th and 4th graders will be required to read 1 book out of a list of choices and complete a story map assignment.

Please Note:

Although we don’t have Required Summer Reading for students entering grades K-3, this age level is strongly encouraged to join the King County Library System’s “Summer Reading Program” and spend all summer reading to parents, listening to parents read, and visiting the library. Sign up here: <http://www.kcls.org/srp/>

REQUIRED SUMMER READING BOOK LISTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Students entering **GRADE 4** are to choose one (1) book from the following to read over the summer:

- Star in the Storm (Harlow)
- Riding Freedom (Ryan)
- The Beloved Dearly (Cooney)
- Kensuke's Kingdom (Morpurgo)
- Mr. Tucket (Paulsen)

The following written assignment is due on the first day of reading class the first week of school:

- Complete a story map using the attached sheet.
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Students entering **GRADE 5** are to choose one (1) book from the following to read over the summer:

- Running Out of Time (Haddix)
- Honus & Me (Gutman)
- The Ballad of Lucy Whipple (Cushman)
- Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism (Byng)
- Lawn Boy (Paulsen)
- Two Hot Dogs with Everything (Haven)

The following written assignment is due on the first day of reading class the first week of school:

- Complete a story map using the attached sheet.
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Students entering **GRADE 6** are to choose two (2) books from the following to read over the summer:

- Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio (Kerhert)
- Peter and the Starcatchers (Barry)
- Football Genius (Green)
- Alanna; The First Adventure (Pierce)
- Boston Jane (Holm)
- The Lost Years of Merlin (Barron)
- Zach's Lie (Smith)
- Crispin. The Cross of Lead (Avi)

The following written assignments are due on the first day of language arts class the first week of school:

- Complete two story maps (one for each book) using the attached sheet and a photocopy.
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Students entering **GRADE 7** are to choose one (1) book from the following to read over the summer:

- Walk Two Moons (Creech)
- Bella at Midnight (Stanley)
- The Color of My Words (Joseph)
- The Boy Who Saved Baseball (Ritter)
- Camp X (Walters)
- The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel (Scott)

In addition, each incoming 7th grader is to also read The Mysterious Benedict Society (Stewart)

The following written assignment is due on the first day of language arts class the first week of school:

- Completely fill out one graphic organizer sheet (attached; make photocopy) for each of the 2 books:
- The Mysterious Benedict Society and your chosen 2nd book.
- You also will be asked during the first week of school to complete another project related to The Mysterious Benedict Society.

Students entering **GRADE 8** are to choose two (2) books from the following to read over the summer:

- Red Scarf Girl (Jiang)
- The Amulet of Samarkand (Stroud)
- High Heat (Dueker)
- Hope Was Here (Bauer)
- Keeper (Peet)
- Bread and Roses, Too (Paterson)
- Stravaganza: City of Masks (Hoffman)

• In addition, each incoming 8th grader is to also read Peak (Smith)

The following written assignment is due on the first day of language arts class the first week of school:

- Completely fill out one graphic organizer sheet (attached; make photocopies) for each of the 3 books: Peak and your chosen 2nd and 3rd books.
 - You will also take a test during the first week of school on Peak.
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name _____

date _____

Grade 4 & 5 & 6
Required Summer Reading
Story Map Assignment

(6th graders are to complete 2 of these.
Please make photocopies.)

Title & Author	
Setting	
Characters (Main & Supporting)	
Problem	
Events	
Solution	

name _____
date _____

**Grade 7 & 8
Required Summer Reading
Graphic Organizer Assignment**

(7th graders are to complete 2 of these.
8th graders are to complete 3.
Please make photocopies.)

Title: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

Setting:

Characters (include antagonist and protagonist):

Theme:

Conflict: (complete this section on the back)