

Holy Angels Catholic School
Summer Reading ~ Mrs. Leftridge
Students Entering Eighth Grade

This summer Holy Angels is implementing a reading program to help your child stay focused and maintain writing, thinking, and reading skills. Staying engaged throughout the summer will promote good habits and aid in a smooth transition in September.

Students entering eighth grade will pick one of the books from the list below and complete ONE of the projects listed. The project is due no later than Friday, September 13th. Summer project and presentation will be the first Reading grade for the year.

Have a fabulous summer and SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

1. The Boy in the Striped Pajamas By John Boyne
2. The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, Young Reader's Edition By William Kamkwamba
3. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
4. The Maze Runner (Book 1) By James Dasner
5. Inkheart (Book 1)By Cornelia Funke
6. The Hiding Place Paperback by Corrie Ten Boom
7. Eragon by Christopher Paolini

PROJECT LIST: (Pick and Complete 1 project–be prepared to present it in class!)

Epic poem: An epic poem is a long, narrative poem that tells an exciting story. Write an epic poem retelling the novel you chose. Your poem must include the following:

- Coverage of all major characters, plot points, setting, and major conflicts
- A minimum of 20 lines
- A consistent rhyme scheme. ABAB, AABB, ABAC, etc.

Book review slideshow: Use google slide to create a slideshow that reviews the novel you chose. Your presentation must include the following:

- A brief summary of the plot and setting
- Conflict: All novels have a protagonist who deals with a conflict. This conflict is caused by an antagonist (abstract or concrete). Abstract would be emotions!
a.) Explain briefly what type of conflict your protagonist is experiencing. For example, if your character is experiencing Man vs. Man, you are to write this and then also explain why it is Man vs. Man using textual evidence. Please provide page number, and the exact quote you use to help support your opinion. Remember, there are 4 types of conflict: man vs man, man vs self, man vs nature, and man vs society.
- An overview of each of the major characters (who they are, their personality traits, their role in the story)
- What you liked and disliked about the book, and why. Give specific examples from the story.
- Slides should include a balance of both text and images (please don't fill up entire slides with text!)
- A minimum of five slides, NOT including title or ending slides (there is no maximum, but please don't go too crazy!)

Movie soundtrack: Create a soundtrack that could be used for a movie version of the novel you chose. Your soundtrack must include the following:

- At least four songs that would work in a soundtrack of the novel. The lyrics should be relevant to the characters, plot, setting, conflict, mood, and/or themes in the novel.
- A one-paragraph description/summary for **each song** which explains why the song fits the characters, plot, setting, conflicts, mood, and/or themes. (If you choose to include more than 4 songs, you do not have to have a description for the extra songs.)
- The title and artist of each song
- OPTIONAL: A playlist (using Spotify, YouTube, Apple Music, etc.) containing all of the songs.

Journal: Write **four journal** entries **as you read** the novel you chose. Journal entries should be at least one paragraph (5-6 sentences minimum) long. You may either handwrite or type your entries. Pick four topics from the list provided. Write the number and question you chose to complete then your answer underneath. You may **not** pick the same question twice. Feel free to include your drawings or artwork as well!

1. Dialectical Journal – choose 3 quotes from the section that you read. Copy the quote in one column. Write your analysis of your selections in the other. What are your thoughts, comments, ideas, and understandings about the significance of the chosen parts of the text?
2. What is the writer's purpose? What does he/she hope to accomplish? Choose at least two passages from the text that clearly demonstrate said purpose.
3. Who is the author's intended audience? What group or subgroup of people is the author trying to persuade or inform? What assumptions about the audience does the writer make?
6. Explain some things you have learned so far that you are not likely to forget in the near future.

7. What questions does this book raise for you? What issues are addressed or ignored in the text?
8. Discuss how...(character) shows his/her personality through the dialogue in the story.
9. What patterns do you see emerging in the text? Does the author repeat certain words or phrases? Sentence patterns? Symbols? Images? Modes of narration?
10. Discuss a particular event in the book that used foreshadowing or flashbacks.
11. How does the main character change over the course of the text? If so, why and how?
12. Write about something that intrigues, impresses, amuses, shocks, puzzles, disturbs, repulses or aggravates you from the novel and why?

13. Discuss how.....(character) shows his/her personality by the actions he/she takes.

14. Choose a passage from the text that you think is just outstanding writing. Include the passage and articulate why you find this selection so powerful.

15. Describe a conflict and identify it as either internal or external. Tell why you chose that label.
16. What is the most important word in the book? The most important passage? The most important event or feeling? Explain.
17. What parts of the book seem most believable or unbelievable? Why?
18. Do any of the characters remind you of friends, family members, or classmates? Explain.
19. What would you and your favorite character talk about in your conversation? Begin the conversation.
20. What was the author saying about life and living through this book? In other words, what is the theme of the book? Cite specific examples of how that theme is developed.
21. If I was the author, I'd change....
22. Write a poem: A. From a character's viewpoint B. About the setting C. About a character D. About the theme of the book
23. If you could change the ending of the novel, how would you?
24. Create a slogan for the book and explain why you chose this...