

## Summer Reading Assignment--7th and 8th Grade

1. **All incoming seventh and eighth grade students** are allowed to choose their own summer reading books this year!
  - a. Students should have the goal of reading 3 or more books this summer!
  - b. Books should be a “good fit--” an appropriate reading level and a topic that you are interested in.
    - i. <https://fabexile.com> can be a great source to help you find books. You can also do a google search by topic, author, or genre. You can also ask a friend or a local librarian for recommendations. There are so many resources out there for you--use them wisely!
  - c. Students will need to choose ONE of the three things that they read to complete this assignment.
  
2. After reading the book, you need to write a **letter** to me that meets the following requirements:
  - a. The date
  - b. A greeting (Dear Ms. T, Dear Ms. Tegiacchi, Hi Ms. T!, etc.)
  - c. A paragraph that tells me about your summer.
  - d. A paragraph that tells me about the book that you read. Think about including: Characters, plot, conflict, resolution, main idea, setting, etc.
  - e. **If you are a new student, your letter should also include** a paragraph that tells me about yourself and helps me to get to know you a little bit better. You might want to include your hobbies, your interests, a little bit about your family, what you like to learn about, etc.
  - f. A closing signature, and your name.The letter should be AT LEAST one front of a page long, handwritten
  
3. To turn in the letter, you have the following three options:
  - a. Mail it to school over the summer  
All Saints Catholic Academy  
ATTN: Ms. Tegiacchi  
10 Rosemont Street  
Albany, NY 12203
  
  - b. Drop off at the school over the summer
  - c. Turn in to me in person on the first day of school

Questions, comments, or concerns? Please feel free to send me an email; [gtegiacchi@ascaalbany.org](mailto:gtegiacchi@ascaalbany.org). Thank you!

Sample Letter:

July 7th, 2019

Dear Future 7th and 8th Graders,

How are you? It is so weird to be working at school without seeing all of your sunshine faces, and it's also weird having all of the snacks to myself. I'm not ready for summer to be over yet, but I definitely do miss you all!

I am very excited for this year ahead, and I have set a lot of new goals for myself as a second year teacher. What are some of your goals, what are you going to do this year to step it up and get involved? Seventh and eighth grade are two of the most important years at All Saints. Sixth grade was your learning/transition year, and now it is really time to dive right on into the full experience of being a middle schooler.

Speaking of diving, what have you been up to all summer? I am so looking forward to hearing all about your summers and what you've been up to. Where did you go? Who did you spend time with? What did you do? What did you read? Yes, reading. I recently went back to grad school so I have been doing lots of special complicated academic reading to help me become a better teacher. It's hard stuff, but it's about topics that matter to me. My goal is that as you read this summer, you will search for and connect with topics that matter to you, too.

We will be doing lots of great reading this year. Seventh grade, you will have the pleasure of reading this really cool novel about basketball that was a HUGE hit last year. And for my eighth graders, you will be able to read my favorite novel of all time, *The Outsiders*. What I love most about it was that the author was actually in high school when she wrote it--she didn't like the books that she was being forced to read, so she wrote her own. It also deals a lot with topics of injustice, which are all over the news right now. It is important to have discussions around some of these issues, which we will also do in class.

I hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer, but come back ready to go! See you soon!

Peace,

-Ms. T