

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD SCHOOL
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“A man practices the art of adventure when he breaks the chain of routine and renews his life through reading new books, traveling to new places, making new friends, taking up new hobbies, and adopting new viewpoints.”

-Abraham Lincoln

Dear Incoming Eighth Graders and Parents/Guardians,

I want to wish you all a wonderful summer break. In an effort to provide you a summer reading assignment that is both interesting and enjoyable, I have included a list of book titles that appeal to a range of interests. The book list has been distributed to the local library as well as B is for Books.

Recently, New York State has unveiled a new set of educational standards for English Language Arts. One specific standard to help make students “college and career” ready is connected to the complexity of reading structures. This new standard will be evidenced by Nativity challenging students to read books of ever increasing complexity throughout the year. Therefore, we ask that when choosing summer reading books, students challenge themselves by selecting books that are both high interest and at grade level. We encourage you to read aloud to your parents and have them read aloud to you as well. Share your thoughts and reactions to your reading with others. Great literature should be discussed and shared!

You are to read a minimum of two books this summer. Of course, we encourage you to continue to read on a regular basis and to discover new authors and books to enjoy over your summer break! For the two books you read, you are to complete a novel outline (attached). In September, you will be given a writing assessment during your English class based upon the two summer reading books that you have selected. You may use your novel outlines as aids in completing the writing assessment. ***Please note you are NOT required to bring the books to school.***

Have a great summer and enjoy this opportunity to read great books! I look forward to discussing your selections with you in September. If you have any questions about the summer reading assignment, please feel free to email me at elesandro@nativityschool.net.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Emily Lesandro
ELA & Literature

Summer Reading requirements: Choose TWO fiction pieces from the lists below.

****These assignments will be due the first Friday after we return to school.****

Fiction Choices:

<i>Stargirl</i> Author: Jerry Spinelli	realistic fiction
<i>The Maze Runner</i> Author: James Dashner	science fiction
<i>Gathering Blue</i> Author: Lois Lowry	social science fiction
<i>Red Badge of Courage</i> Author: Stephan Crane	historical fiction
<i>The Alchemist</i> Author: Paul Coelho	fiction

DIRECTIONS: For each fiction selection: Complete the attached packets (one for each book).

Name _____

Date _____

English

Summer Book Choice #1

Title: _____

Author: _____

I. Characters:

Character Description:

II. Setting: _____

III. Conflicts: _____

IV. Plot / Main Events:

- 1) _____

- 2) _____

- 3) _____

- 4) _____

- 5) _____

- 6) _____

V. Themes: _____

VI. How has the main character changed over the course of the novel?

Description of protagonist at the beginning of the novel:	People and/or events that impact the protagonist:	Description of protagonist at the end of the novel:

Name _____

Date _____

English

Summer Book Choice #2

Title: _____

Author: _____

I. Characters:

Character Description:

II. Setting: _____

III. Conflicts: _____

IV. Plot / Main Events:

- 1) _____

- 2) _____

- 3) _____

- 4) _____

- 5) _____

- 6) _____

V. Themes: _____

VI. How has the main character changed over the course of the novel?

Description of protagonist at the beginning of the novel:	People and/or events that impact the protagonist:	Description of protagonist at the end of the novel: