

## Middle School Summer Reading & Writing Requirements

Dear Little Flower Parents and Guardians,

Reading and writing are an important part of everyday life. Summer is a great time to do both. The more our students read and enjoy doing so, the better readers they will be.

To ensure students enjoy summer reading, I decided to go a different route with grade level selections this school year. I allowed students time to research on the **Scholastic bookstore** online and find books they would be interested in reading. Then I narrowed it down to a shorter list. The following books are options for this summer. Students are required to select two books to read and the rest are optional. **Students are required to keep a composition book/spiral with chapter summaries.** They *do not need* to have one for each book; one place to keep their summaries is sufficient. These summaries will ensure that they are able to easily complete the novel project when they return in August.

### *8th Grade Reading Options:*

1. Trapped by Michael Northrop
2. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
3. Chasing King's Killer: The Hunt for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Assassin by James L. Swanson
4. American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang
5. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
6. I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb (not available on the Scholastic site)
7. Echo by Pam Muñoz Ryan

### *7th Grade Reading Options:*

1. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
2. The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
3. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
4. Wonder by R. J. Palacio
5. I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb (not available on the Scholastic site)
6. The Honest Truth by Dan Gemeinhart
7. Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

### *6th grade Reading Options:*

1. Number of the Stars by Lois Lowry
2. The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
3. The Candymakers by Wendy Mass
4. Wonder by R. J. Palacio
5. When you Reach Me by Rebecca Stead
6. Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
7. I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition) by Patricia McCormick and Malala Yousafzai \*\*\*Please note this is the young readers edition.

In addition to reading their two novels, I would like students to start a separate gratitude journal that they write in at least 3-to-5 times a week. There has been a tremendous amount of research showing those who are grateful are happy and healthier, so I think it would be great to ask our children to reflect on their many blessings as often as possible. It would be even more powerful if you joined them and discuss it. Students should write the date and at least 4-to-6 sentences about what they are grateful for making sure to elaborate on why (how it makes them feel, why is this special, etc.). We will continue writing and working with these journals all next year. 😊 Please let me know if you have any questions.

I hope that you and your family will read and share many stories this summer!

Thank you for your support,

Mrs. Sanchez

Little Flower School ELAR Middle School Teacher