June 2020
Dear Parents,

Below, you will find the summer reading projects. I am asking that each child read one of the novels listed below and complete one of the following projects. The project requirements are designed to give the students some choice in the framework for their presentation. Not all children have the same interests and talents, so these various options given will enable each student to enjoy both the reading assignment and the completion of the project.

In addition to the project I am asking for the students to fill out the Summer Reading Log that I have provided. Students should read at least 3 books to log. I have suggested some books and authors. If the students prefer to read some other books and authors, that is fine as well.

The completed projects and logs will be due the first week of school. The projects and logs will be submitted to Mrs. Mosquera, the Middle School ILA teacher. The students will also do a brief summary of their project in front of the class to practice public speaking. If your project requires a summary or any writing, you can choose to either type that section or neatly write it on white lined paper.

If you have any questions, please email me mmosquera@stpaulbrl.org.

Happy Reading!
Mrs. Mosquera

Project # 1: Commercial
Upon completion of your novel, develop a commercial to sell the book to others. This commercial may be videotaped or audiotaped. Your commercial must include a discussion of story elements - characters, setting, plot, etc., but most importantly, you need to evaluate the book and promote it! What were the interesting elements? Why would others enjoy it? Your commercial should be a minimum of two minutes. Remember that commercials are always used to promote products. No commercial should be negative in tone. Please include a transcript of your commercial dialogue.

Project # 2: Diary Entry
Write a diary for one of the main characters in your book. Discuss at least three events that occurred in the novel from your character’s point of view. Each event should be a separate entry. One entry should discuss an event from the beginning of the book, another the middle, and the third, an event from the conclusion of the novel. These entries should be written in first person. You need to become the
character! Each diary entry should be at least a paragraph consisting of at least four sentences.

Project #3: Picture Book
Rewrite your novel as a picture book. Choose a minimum of 10 important events that will retell the story. On each page you should include an illustration and some text. The text should be written in your own words, not the text from the original novel. Remember to use color when illustrating your book. Text should be at least three sentences for each event.

Project #4: Collage
Design a collage for your novel. Use clippings to design a collage that depicts your novel. On the back of your collage write a brief summary of the book. Summary should be a paragraph consisting of at least four sentences.

Project #5: Story Bag
Create a story bag for your novel. Decorate the outside of a brown paper bag with the title, author, and pictures illustrating the theme of the book. Choose a minimum of 10 souvenirs to fill your bag. These souvenirs should be articles that are related to your novel in some way. Along with the souvenirs, you need to include an index card explaining how your chosen souvenirs are related to the novel. Your responses should be at least three sentences for each souvenir.
Summer Reading List
Grade 8

Required Books (Choose ONE of the following for the project):
- The Pearl by John Steinbeck
- The Secret Garden by Frances Burnett
- The Call of the Wild by Jack London
- White Fang by Jack London
- Animal Farm by George Orwell

Suggested Books for the Reading Log:
- Airman by Eoin Colfer
- Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliet
- Crash by Jerry Spinelli
- Heat by Mike Lupica
- Homecoming by Cynthia Voight
- Ghost by Jason Reynolds
- The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
- The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt
- Any book by the following authors:
  - Jerry Spinelli
  - Jason Reynolds
  - Avi
# SUMMER READING RUBRIC

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<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Minimal</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Format</strong></td>
<td>Uses complete sentences. Completes the required length.</td>
<td>Makes one or two sentence structure errors. Completes the required length.</td>
<td>Makes many sentence errors. Is short of the required length.</td>
<td>Uses fragments and run-on sentences. Is short of the required length.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>Uses correct spelling throughout.</td>
<td>Makes one or two spelling errors.</td>
<td>Makes many spelling errors.</td>
<td>Uses incorrect spelling throughout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conventions</strong></td>
<td>Uses proper grammar and correct punctuation.</td>
<td>Makes one or two errors in grammar or punctuation.</td>
<td>Makes many errors in grammar or punctuation.</td>
<td>Uses incorrect grammar or punctuation throughout.</td>
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</tbody>
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# Summer Reading Log

This summer I read some good books! My three favorite books were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
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<th>Title:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author:</td>
<td>Author:</td>
<td>Author:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quick Summary:</td>
<td>Quick Summary:</td>
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Additional Books that I would recommend:

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I certify that ____________________________ read these books this summer.
Signed: ____________________________ (parent or guardian)

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