

SUMMER NOVEL READING GUIDELINES

Students promoted to grades 4th – 6th are required to read **one (1)** book from the Summer Reading List.

During the first week of school, SHE fourth, fifth, and sixth graders are assessed by a 100-point writing evaluation. Fifth and sixth are administered a teacher-made 100-point test as well.

Assessments address “Elements of Fiction”; thus, as they read their chosen novel, students are strongly encouraged to take notes using methods they’ve used with classroom reading assignments. Student readers may write IN their novels and/or use a reader’s journal to note what they’ve read each reading session. A reader notes **setting**, **characters**, **plot**, and **theme/lesson** as well as **vocabulary**.

*During testing, the student refers to both the marked up (for example, ink, pencil, highlighter, post-it notes) novel and the reader’s journal as long as the notes are in **his own handwriting**.

Sacred Heart Elementary 4th-6th Grades Summer Reading



2020-2021

SUMMER NOVEL WRITING GUIDELINES

The writing assignments assess by rubric the grammar skills, composition organization and development appropriate for the grade level. The student writer is required to create a thinking map typical of those used in ELA courses.

4th graders complete an illustrated book report project addressing the teachers’ requirements as listed on the rubric.

5th and 6th graders write a character analysis focusing on character (personality) attributes and providing evidence, examples, details from the novel itself.

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4th GRADE READING CHOICES

Student chooses **one** (1).

The PS Brothers

by Maribeth Boelts
L: 810

Shawn and Russell, two underprivileged boys, want, more than anything, a dog, a tough one who will protect them and keep them safe. The two are creative in their money-earning and find themselves dealing with obstacles they hadn't considered. Parts of the novel, however, are hilarious and fun to read.

Rikki Tikki Tavi

by Rudyard Kipling
L: 800

Here is the thrilling story of Rikki, the fearless mongoose, suddenly locked in a life-and-death struggle to protect the boy and his parents from Nag and Nagaina, the two enormous cobras.

A Wrinkle in Time

by Madeline L'Engle
L: 740

This Newberry winner chronicles Meg's adventure in space and time, as she and her brother Charles Wallace together with friend Calvin search for Meg's father, a scientist who's disappeared.

**Caution to those who read A Wrinkle in Time, the current movie based on the novel is not a completely accurate depiction of the novel; therefore, a student should not rely on the movie for any part of the assessment.*

5th GRADE READING CHOICES

Student chooses **one** (1).

Little Blog on the Prairie

by Cathleen Bell
L: 800

It's 1890: no iPads, no cell phones, no electricity nor indoor plumbing. This is the life Gen endures the whole summer now that her mother has decided the family vacation is at a frontier-living fantasy camp near Laramie, Wyoming. When they arrive, all modern conveniences are taken away. How will Gen *survive*?

The Book of Elsewhere: The Shadows

by Jaqueline West
L: 770

Eleven-year-old Olive and her dippy mathematician parents move into an old mansion; something is immediately odd about the place and it isn't just that the walls are covered in strange antique paintings. When Olive finds an old pair of glasses, she discovers she can travel through the paintings to another world. Yet, Elsewhere has secrets.

The One and Only Ivan

by Katherine Applegate
L: 570

In the Newberry winner, Ivan, an easygoing gorilla living in a mall, has grown accustomed to humans watching him through the glass and he rarely thinks about life in the jungle...until he meets baby elephant Ruby. With Ruby come changes, and it's up to Ivan to see to it that the changes are for the better.

6th GRADE READING CHOICES

Student chooses **one** (1).

Hatchet

by Gary Paulsen
L: 1020

Stranded in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but a hatchet and the clothes on his back, city boy Brian struggles to survive for the next two months. The ordeal forces Brian to reevaluate our twentieth-century civilization ways. Does he change his perspective?

Island of the Blue Dolphins

by Scott O'Dell
L: 1000

Karana, an Indian girl, lives alone for years on the island. Year after year, she watches one season pass into another as she waits for a ship to take her away. Meanwhile, she's busy building shelter, fashioning weapons, foraging for food, and fighting her enemies—wild dogs. It is not only an unusual adventure of survival but also a tale of natural beauty and personal discovery.

SUMMER NOVEL READING GUIDELINES

Students promoted to grades 7th or 8th are required to read **one (1)** book from the Summer Reading List.

During the first week of school, SHE students in seventh and eighth grades are administered a teacher-made 100-point test as well as a 100-point writing assignment relevant to the student-chosen novel.

All assessments address “Elements of Fiction”; thus, as they read their chosen novel, students are strongly encouraged to take notes as they have with classroom reading assignments. Student readers may write IN their novels and/or use a reader’s journal to note what they’ve read each reading session. A reader notes **setting, characters, plot, conflict, point of view, symbolism** and **theme/lesson** as well as **vocabulary**.

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Sacred Heart Elementary

7th and 8th Grades

Summer Reading



2020 - 2021

SUMMER NOVEL WRITING GUIDELINES

The writing assignments follow “Write...For the Future” guidelines used in ELA courses and is assessed by rubric.

7th grade fiction: Write a **character analysis** focusing on character attributes, character changes, character interactions and responses, as well as on author’s meaning. Provide support with quoted details, paraphrasing, figurative language, literary devices, examples and evidence from the novel itself.

8th grade fiction: Write a **novel synopsis** addressing characters, setting (time and place), major plot points and plot action, as well as the various conflicts and resolutions. The student writer presents an “overview” (analysis and/or critique), explains and supports with evidence from the book.

8th grade nonfiction: Write a **nonfiction book review** fulfilling requirements of rubric and adhering to format of example issued.

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7th GRADE READING CHOICES

Student chooses **one** (1).

Downsiders by Neal Shusterman
Science fiction, Futuristic
L: 1110

When fourteen-year-old Lindsay meets Talon and discovers the Downsiders' world which has evolved from the subway built by Alfred Ely Beach in New York in 1867, she and her new friend experience the clash of the two cultures.

Brian's Winter by Gary Paulsen
Adventure fiction
L: 1140

Brian's Winter begins where Paulsen's Hatchet might have ended: Brian is not rescued; consequently, the city teenager fighting for survival in the Canadian wilderness, is forced to improve his survival skills especially in preparation to face the deadliest enemy—an approaching northern winter of record.

Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines in World War II
by Joseph Bruchac
Historical fiction
L: 1100

Ned Begay, forced to believe the Navajo language was useless and should be forgotten, is recruited by US Marines in the war against Japan. Only sixteen, Begay enlists and, together with other Navajos, is soon sending and receiving top-secret messages in an unbreakable code based on the Navajo language.



NOT ALL READERS
ARE LEADERS,
BUT ALL LEADERS
ARE READERS.

- HARRY S. TRUMAN

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8th GRADE READING CHOICES

Student chooses **one** (1).

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth Speare
Historical Fiction L: 760

The action-packed novel tells the story of Daniel, a fierce, hotheaded 18-year-old bent on revenging his father's death by forcing the Romans from his land of Israel, but then he hears the gentle lessons of the traveling carpenter, Jesus of Nazareth. A fast-paced, suspenseful, vivid tale of friendship, loyalty, and the idea of home, The Bronze Bow is a powerful, relevant read in turbulent times.

Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter by Adeline Yen Mah
Nonfiction, a Memoir L: 960

A riveting memoir of a girl's painful coming-of-age in a wealthy Chinese family during the 1940s. Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair. This memoir is a moving telling of the classic Cinderella story.

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
Nonfiction, Biography L: 1000

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. In October 2012, when she was fifteen, Malala was shot in the head while riding the bus home from school, and her heroic recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey.