

## St. Luke's School

### Summer Required Reading Assignments for students entering Grade 8

Due Date: first day of school

\*Students entering Grade 8 will be required to read and report on **TWO** books during the summer, **one fiction selection and one nonfiction selection**.

\*All students will read the following nonfiction selection:

*The Tornado Scientists: Seeing Inside Severe Storms by Mary Kay Carson*

A copy of this book will be given to you on the last day of school. You are responsible for maintaining it in its current condition and returning it to school in August or replacing it with a new copy.

\*You will fill out the **NON FICTION FORM** you receive from your teacher.

**All students will choose ONE of the following fiction books to read:**

\***The Last Cuentista**- Petra has always wanted to be a storyteller, but Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred people survive, including Petra and her family. Together they all journey to another planet and start a new human race.

\***The Outsiders**- The novel tells the story of 14 year old Ponyboy Curtis and his struggles with right and wrong in a society in which he believes that he is an outsider.

\***Lord of the Flies**- In the midst of a raging war, a plane evacuating a group of schoolboys from Britain is shot down over a deserted tropical island. Without adult supervision, their attempt at self-governance quickly collapses into chaos.

Please make sure that your parents approve of your selection.

You are welcome to read more than one of these books and use it for your first independent reading assignment when we return to school!

To report on the book you choose, pick **one** of the following options:

**Option 1. Keep a literature log.** For each chapter or for every 20 pages write: o a response – What is going on in the story? What does it mean?

What thoughts and feelings did you have as you read it?

- o a question about what you have read
- o a connection to something that happened to you or something you read or saw
- o a prediction about what will happen next

Label each log entry according to chapters or page numbers.

**Do not write a summary of the book.**

**Option 2.** Imagine that you are the main character. **Write 3 journal entries**, one for the beginning of the book, one for the middle, and one for the end. Include what you imagine would be the character's thoughts, feelings, and reactions. Length: 1 or 2 pages total, typed, double spaced, size 12.

**Option 3. Write a poem** about the book which includes elements of the setting, characters, plot, and theme. Length: at least one page typed, double spaced, size 12.

**Option 4. Write a script** for a dramatization of one of the chapters or events in the book, and either perform it as a reader's theater for the class or video it to show to the class. You will also pass in the script. Length: a least 2 pages typed, double-spaced, size 12.

**Option 5. Create a picture book** from the story. Tell the story in simple language and illustrate with 10-12 pictures.

\*Your finished products should represent time and effort and a careful and thoughtful reading of the books. All work should be neatly done, and should not include spelling or grammatical errors. Points will be subtracted for work that is late.

Please note! As your Language Arts teacher I expect and hope that you will read as much as you can this summer beyond these two required selections!!

Reading is truly the key to success in school. I hope you like these selections and wish you a safe and happy summer!

See you next year!

