



# CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1001 Fort Crook Road North, Suite 200  
Bellevue, NE 68005



June 3, 2024

Dear Middle School Parents (6<sup>th</sup> Grade),

An important part of our middle school is the summer reading program. Reading is an essential life skill. Therefore, CCS wants to help your student maintain their current reading abilities rather than lose them over the summer months. Continuing to read during the summer will further develop fluency, broaden students reading comprehension, and keep their minds engaged.

In preparing for the upcoming school year in our middle school program, Cornerstone requires all students entering grades 6-8 to read and complete a project over a book selected from the summer reading list. These books have been chosen to prepare your student for literary studies in the upcoming school year. All the books are historical fiction and cover topics or countries that will be studied in history class. Below are the requirements for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Students must read a book from the appropriate grade's summer reading list and prepare the grade-appropriate assignment. This assignment is **due on Wednesday, August 28, 2024**. ***The assignment will be graded.*** Attached you will find the requirements and format for your student's assignment. In addition to reading a book for the *assignment*, students need to read a book from the discussion reading list as well. Students will be put into literature circles in the early part of the school year, and readers need to be able to discuss elements or answer questions about the characters of the story they read from the list. ***Your student will read two books total but will not complete an assignment on the discussion book.***

If your student has already read stories on either of the lists, it is all right for them to re-read one. Research tells us that when we re-read a story, we can catch foreshadowing that we missed the first time, catch hidden meaning, and even missed plot themes. Re-reading is a very worthy exercise.

You can find these books at your local library, on amazon or other online websites. Thank you for encouraging your student to read over the summer and continue to build their reading skills. I encourage you to read these books alongside your student. Doing this can provide gratifying discussion opportunities for you and your student. Enjoy your summer!

Blessings,

Miss Dick and Mrs. Wegner

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Discussion Books:** *Be prepared for a class discussion in August.*

- Everything Sad Is Untrue* by Daniel Nayeri
- Game Changer* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- Return to Sender* by Julia Alvarez
- All the Greys on Greene Street* by Laura Tucker
- Peak* by Roland Smith

**Reading List for Book Assignment List:** (choose one)

- Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz
- Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- Chains* by Laura Halse Anderson
- Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk

**Book Assignment Instructions on the above book selection**

**Grading Rubric:**

\_\_\_\_/ **20 Comprehension**

- Book jacket demonstrates a strong understanding of the novel's main ideas and important details.

\_\_\_\_/ **20 Style**

- Book jacket's text is engaging to read; the writing compels a potential reader to read the story.
- Illustration is detailed and thoughtful, catching a potential reader's eye and enticing them to read the story.

\_\_\_\_/ **10 Mechanics and formatting**

- Book jacket uses correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, capitalization, and formatting.

**Teacher Comments:**

**Total points earned \_\_\_\_\_/ 50**

## Instructions

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Book Jacket Activity

*student directions*



Show your understanding and appreciation of this novel by creating a new book jacket (a front cover and back cover)! Follow the directions below to get started.

1. Create an original **front cover**, with the following elements:
  - The title and author
  - An illustration that exemplifies a significant detail from the story (for example, an important scene, character, or symbol from the novel)
2. Create the original **back cover**, with the following elements:
  - A one-paragraph summary of the story that does not give away the ending
  - Two 1-2 sentence reviews of the story (blurbs) Example: "This inspiring story offers a thoughtful glimpse into the life of a conflicted teen."

*reflection*

When you are finished with your book jacket, respond to the questions below:

1. Discuss your choice of illustration and the details you included in it. Why did you choose this image as a focus for the cover? How does it relate to the novel?
2. What main ideas or aspects from the novel did you include in your summary and blurbs? Why did you find these details to be the best ones to include? Explain with examples from the novel.