

Vineland Public Charter School

Summer Reading

Incoming Grade 8

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As the 2017-18 school year draws to a close, it is my pleasure to present to you our 2018 Summer Reading Assignment. Summer reading is an important activity for your child's intellectual growth and development. It encourages students to continue learning while still providing them with fun and enjoyment. What helps make reading entertaining for children is allowing them the freedom to choose books that speak to their unique interests.

Vineland Public Charter School students entering grade 8 are required to read The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton. The required book must be read during the summer in preparation for a mini-unit which will be introduced by the 8th grade Language Arts Literacy teacher at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. The length of the unit will be conducted during the first week of school and will be preceded by an assessment.

Students have the option to read a second book from our suggested book list and complete a project for **extra credit** towards a project grade for the 1st quarter. Extra credit projects are due **Wednesday, September 5th**.

Happy Reading!

****If you have any questions, please contact your child's current teacher prior to June 27th.*

This information will be available on our school website for the duration of the summer.

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SUMMER READING DIRECTIONS:

1. Please read the required book, THE OUTSIDERS by S.E. HINTON. This book can be found at the Vineland Library (1058 E Landis Ave, Vineland, NJ 08360).
2. Complete a project from the suggested summer reading book list for extra credit.

For the 8th Grade Summer Reading Extra Credit Assignment, we have compiled a list of novels, many recommended by the local librarian, with a variety of reading levels and subject matter. I encourage all students and their parents or guardians review this list before making their book selection. Most books are available and can be checked out from your local library. After reading the books, students can create a project inspired from their reading. Carefully review the criteria and the variety of project suggestions that are provided. All participating students will have the opportunity to present their extra credit projects during the week of **Wednesday, September 5th**. Projects will count as an extra credit project grade for the 1st trimester. All projects are due to your homeroom teacher by **Wednesday, September 5th**.

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EXTRA CREDIT PROJECTS

- A. Novel Playlist: Produce a playlist of at least 5 musical selections that reflect any of the following and briefly explain why you choose the song and how it connects to your novel.

Theme

Main idea

Author's purpose/perspective/character's life

- B. Facebook Page: Create a pretend Facebook page for the main character. Include the groups the character would join, provide three status updates, identify 5 people the character would choose as friends and justify your choices for the characters with brief explanation using text evidence. **The template for this can be downloaded from our school website.*

- C. Inside /Out Character Study

Identify and discuss the external and internal attributes in a character that you have chosen. Discuss how these attributes affect the decisions that the character makes throughout novel.

- D. Change the ending

Write a one page different ending to your novel.

- E. You Magically Become a Character in Your Novel

Pretend you could magically enter your novel. Write a short essay explaining what event, setting or conflict you would enter and why. How would your being there change the story? How would you connect yourself to the characters?

Minimum: three paragraph entry.

- F. Book review

Write a pretend review of your novel for Amazon.com. Give two opinions about the novel and cite examples using quotations from the novel to support your opinion. Include supporting details explaining why you would recommend this novel and to what audience you think the novel is written for.

Minimum: three paragraph entry.

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REQUIRED READING:

The Outsiders-S.E. Hinton

SUGGESTED READING:

Hoops- Walter D. Myers

Artemus Fowl-Eoin Colfer

Life as we Knew it-Susan Beth Pfeffer

Gregor the Overlander- Suzanne Collins

The Lost Conspiracy-Miriam Jensen Hendrix

The Maze Runner-James Dashner

Treasure Island-Robert Louis Stevenson

The Sea of Trolls-Nancy Farmer

Hush-Judy Brown

Crash-Jerry Spinelli

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