

**Saint Ursula School
8900 Harford Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21234**

**ENTERING GRADE 8
2018- 2019**

May 2018

Dear Parents:

Each student is expected to read two books during the summer break. A test will be given on the identified test book, Thursday, September 6, 2018. Each student will read a second book which will be summarized at home and discussed in reading circles. The written summary is also due on Thursday, September 6, 2018. Reading circles will take place in early September. **Students should list three choices from the Reading Circle list on the lines below and one book will be assigned by May 31, 2018.** The written summary, participation in reading circles, and test will count toward the first trimester ELA grade.

We encourage you and your child to visit the library frequently. The reading of these and other books is a way to establish good reading habits and build a strong vocabulary.

Sincerely,

The Reading Curriculum Committee

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Please return this form by **WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018**

The books my child has chosen from the reading circle list for discussion and written summary are: (Books are chosen and listed below in order of preference from the attached *Reading Circle and Written Summary List – not the test book.*)

First Choice _____

Second Choice _____

Third Choice _____

Students will be notified of the book they will read for reading circles and prepare a written summary by 5/31/2018.

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I have read the letter regarding summer reading.

Parent's Signature _____

Student's Signature _____

SAINT URSULA SCHOOL
READING LIST
ENTERING GRADE 8

Tested Book: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

All students are **required** to read *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain. They will be tested on the book Thursday, September 6, 2018.

Reading Circle and Written Summary List: (Please make sure this is the book that was assigned.)

- *Fever 1793*
Laurie Halse Anderson

- *Chains*
Laurie Halse Anderson

- *Woods Runner*
Gary Paulsen

- *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch*
Jean Lee Latham

- *The Year of Hangman*
Gary Blackwood

- *Soldier's Heart*
Gary Paulsen

1. Students will read the assigned book from the Reading Circle and Written Summary list and participate in reading discussion circles the early September. Be prepared for discussion based on the guidelines given for the written summary. The book may be brought to school for reference.

2. Summarize the assigned book from the Reading Circle list. The written summary will be due on Thursday, September 6, 2018. Follow the format below and type using 11 point/Calibri font with double spacing. Each paragraph should be ten to fourteen well-written sentences.

Written Format:

- Paragraph one should include the following:
 - ❖ Title
 - ❖ Author
 - ❖ Introduction of characters and setting (both when and where)
 - ❖ Introduction to conflict in the story

- Paragraph two should include the following:
 - ❖ Rising action and main plot events
 - ❖ Climax
 - ❖ Resolution/conclusion of the story