



Summer Reading and Writing Assignments

Dear 5th graders,

Neil Gaiman, author of many wonderful books, says, “A book is a dream you hold in your hands.” At Convent & Stuart Hall, we encourage dreams, both big and small. We want our students to exercise their imaginations, to travel to far off places, to be excited by everything that life has to offer - and so we have created a short reading list for you. **You are required to read one book as a whole class, and choose at least one from a list we have compiled.** The required reading will be used as your first text in English class next year, so **please buy the paperback and bring it to school in August.**

Summer reading ought to be enjoyable, so we chose books we think you might like based on the overarching theme for 5th grade English, **The Art of Storytelling**. Make sure to read the synopsis of each book before you choose one. You can also read a few pages of each to see whether it matches your mood and your vocabulary. If you prefer to read novels not on this list, feel free. Also feel free to read all the books on this list!

Stuart Hall for Boys 5th Grade
Required:

- *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds

+ Student Choice of ONE or more of

- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *Jazz Day: The Making of a Famous Photograph* by Roxanne Orgill (Poetry)
- *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Patterson
- *Aru Shah and the End of Time* by Roshani Chokshi
- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau
- *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia
- *Tumble and Blue* by Cassie Beasley
- *Holes* by Louis Sachar

Anne Frank wrote, “I can shake off everything as I write; my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn.” Writers are historians and fortune tellers, entertainers and healers. Over the summer, we would like you to **keep a handwritten journal of at least six entries** using these prompts or any other of your own. Each journal entry should be **at least a page long**. Write as much as you can about your topics. You can **fictionalize** your entries if you like - pretend to be someone else and

write in their voice. You could write in the form of **poetry, song lyrics, or drama** as well. Be honest, be descriptive, be creative.

1. Write about your day. What happened? With whom did you interact?
2. Write about sheltering in place. What was it like for you?
3. Write a response to a book you read this summer. What did teach you? What did it make you wonder?
4. Imagine that you get to meet a celebrity. Describe what happened.
5. Write about a time you said something that you regretted.
6. Write about a time that someone said something to you that hurt you.
7. Write about something that you are proud of.
8. Choose an article out of the newspaper. Tape it into your journal. Write about it.
9. If you could live in any book, what book would it be? Why?
10. Write a review of a movie.
11. Write a review of a television show.
12. Write a book review.
13. Write a story inspired by a recent dream that you had.
14. Write a new ending for your favorite book.
15. Write a story inspired by one of your pet-peeves.
16. Write about a time you kept a secret from someone else, or someone else kept a secret from you.
17. Write a story or journal entry about a photograph you have in your house. If you can, tape your photograph into your journal. You may also draw the photograph!
18. Interview a person in your life. Write a transcription of your interview. Try to ask them questions you do not already know the answer to!
19. Read the newspaper. Write a poem or short story using a headline as your first line.
20. You accidentally drink a potion that shrinks you down to two inches tall. Write a story about your day.
21. Pick a random word from the dictionary. Use this word as inspiration for a story.
22. Imagine you find a time traveling machine. Describe how you use it. Where do you go? What happens?

We wish you a healthy and happy summer and look forward to seeing you in the new school year. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at sharanya.naik@sacredsfs.org or Mrs. Whatmore at jeanne.whatmore@sacredsfs.org

On behalf of the English Department,

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