

Summer Reading Requirements

Grade Seven

St. Andrew the Apostle School

2018-2019

Required Reading:

1. *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes

All seventh grade students are required to read *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes. This is the story of the years in Boston, Massachusetts before the American Revolution, which features both fictional and historical characters. The book won the 1944 Newbery Medal. Students are strongly encouraged to read aloud or with family, to make annotations in the book or on post-its, and to refer to a dictionary wherever appropriate. **Each student should bring his/her copy of *Johnny Tremain* to school in August.**

2. *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson

All seventh grade students are also required to read *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson. This compelling and impeccably researched novel follows a thirteen-year-old girl, as she fights for her own freedom during the time of the Revolutionary War. This book won the 2009 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction and was a 2008 National Book Award Finalist. Students, again, are strongly encouraged to make annotations in the book or on post-its, and to refer to a dictionary wherever appropriate. **Each student should bring his/her copy of *Chains* to school in August.**

3. One Newbery Medal or Honor Book

The American Library Association's website lists every title to receive a Newbery Award or Newbery Honor (runner-up) since 1922. This award recognizes the most distinguished American children's book published each year and represents outstanding literature and exemplary writing. Using this site, please select one book for additional summer reading and complete the following assignment based on your reading.

Required Writing Assignment:

Write a thorough description of your chosen Newbery book addressing and specifying each of the following elements: plot (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution), characters, setting, and conflict. Describe your reaction to the book and present a strong introduction and conclusion. Organize your essay into coherent paragraphs and type it, using MLA formatting. This assignment will receive a Literature test grade and is due on the first day of school.

