

Dear Incoming 7th Graders,

This summer please read *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt OR *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. Be prepared to submit this TYPED writing assignment on the first day of school.

If you read *The Wednesday Wars*, answer the following questions in a paragraph each (two paragraphs total).

1. How did your opinion of Mrs. Baker change as you read the book? Give specific examples and cite incidents from the story to support your view.
2. Why did Holling refer to his home as the “Perfect House,” and how does this relate to Holling’s father? Give details from the book that support the idea that all was not perfect.

If you read *Hatchet*, answer the following questions in a paragraph each (two paragraphs total).

1. *Hatchet* is a coming-of-age story—in the extreme. Once rescued and returned to civilization, how has Brian's survival experience changed him? In what way is he a different boy than the one who stepped on the plane at the beginning of the story? How, for instance, does he come to view his parents' divorce?
2. Put yourself in Brian's shoes. How would you fare in his situation? Which personal qualities and skills would you draw upon to survive? Could you survive?