

Dear Class Six Parents,

I am normally privileged to visit with your children to talk about their summer reading during the last few weeks of school. It is my hope that during that time together I am able to arouse their curiosity and enthusiasm for *Banner in the Sky* and *Adam of the Road*. Since this year is a little different, in order to help them interact with the reading, I have created the attached handouts. For *Banner in the Sky*, the quotations and commentary about the major character will help students engage with the novel and enrich our discussions in August. For *Adam of the Road*, the quotes noting the various facets of Middle Ages culture will help students understand and appreciate the vast differences between then and now. Each student will need to print a copy of the reading assignment. The documents are attached on this email, and they will also be available soon on the PCS website under Parents/Books/Summer Reading tab.

Please purchase a paperback copy of each book making sure that the ISBN number matches the one on the assignment. This is important so that we can all literally be “on the same page” as we discuss the book in the fall.

Blessings!

Katie Millen

Class Six English/History

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Name: _____ Class: _____

**Providence Christian School of Texas
Class Six Summer Reading Assignment 2020**

NOTE: Both portions of this assignment are due the first day of school.

Banner in the Sky:

Your first novel for Class Six will be *Banner in the Sky* by James Ramsey Ullman, a fabulous story about a young boy with an almost impossible dream. Please read the following edition and bring it to school on the first day of class:

**Ullman, James Ramsey. *Banner in the Sky*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1988.
ISBN: 978-0-06-447048-3**

As you read, make observations about Rudi, the main character, recording meaningful quotations from the text on the chart provided in this packet. These quotes might be something Rudi says, does, or thinks; they might also include what another character says about him or comments the narrator makes. **Remember that the quotes you select should reveal Rudi's character qualities, and you should not repeat any qualities. Each quote should reveal something different about Rudi.** Be sure to put quotations in quotation marks, indicate the speaker of a direct quotation, and include the page number for each quote! In the "Commentary" column, offer thoughts regarding what the quote reveals to you about Rudi's character. **Record a minimum of ten quotes.** Select quotes from various chapters rather than from only one part of the book.

Adam of the Road:

For your second summer reading assignment, read *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray. You will enjoy this book about the Middle Ages. Please read the following edition and bring it to school on the first day of class:

**Gray, Elizabeth Janet. *Adam of the Road*. New York: Puffin Books, 1942.
ISBN: 978-0142406595**

While reading, please record meaningful quotations on the chart provided in this packet. **Remember that the quotes you select should reveal various aspects of the culture of the Middle Ages, and you should not repeat any aspects of culture. Each quote should reveal something different about the Middle Ages.** These aspects of culture include occupations, apparel, housing arrangements, religious preferences and practices, beliefs, superstitions, and major events. Be sure to put quotations in quotation marks, indicate the speaker of a direct quotation, and include the page number for each quote! In the "Commentary" column, offer thoughts about what the quote reveals to you about the culture of the Middle Ages. **Record a minimum of ten quotes.** Select quotes from various chapters rather than from only one part of the book.

**NOTE: Please see the grading rubric on the last page of this packet
for information about how the assignment will be graded.**

Name: _____ Class: _____

Providence Christian School
Summer Reading Assignment 2020
Class Six
Banner in the Sky

Page	Meaningful Quotation
36	“Rudi talked on. About the north face, about the west ridge, the southwest ridge. He talked quietly and thoughtfully, but with deep inner excitement, for this was the first time in his life that he had been able to speak to anyone of these things which he had thought and studied for so long...”
Commentary	
Here the author demonstrates Rudi’s passion. Although he does not seem to be interested in some of the things other boys care about, he is deeply passionate about climbing the Citadel, which illustrates his fervor for his life’s mission.	
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Providence Christian School
Summer Reading Assignment 2020
Class Six
Adam of the Road

Page	Meaningful Quotation
14	“Roger Quartermayne was no ordinary minstrel, picking up an uncertain penny telling rough yarns in inn-yards and market places, filling in gaps in his memory with juggling and tumbling and piping as the poorer sort did.”
Commentary	
As the author’s description of Roger implies, evidently there were different classes of minstrels in the Middle Ages – some poorer than others.	
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**Providence Christian School
Summer Reading 2020
Class Six
Grading Rubric**

Criterion	Points Possible	Points Earned
Neatness	5	
Grammar/Spelling	5	
Completeness: 10 meaningful quotations with commentary for <i>Banner in the Sky</i> ; 10 meaningful quotations with commentary for <i>Adam of the Road</i>	40	
Appropriateness: Quotations and commentary from <i>Banner in the Sky</i> deal with Rudi's character; quotations and commentary from <i>Adam of the Road</i> deal with the culture of the Middle Ages	40	
Variety: Each commentary from <i>Banner in the Sky</i> reveals <i>different</i> traits about Rudi, and each commentary from <i>Adam of the Road</i> reveal <i>different</i> aspects related to the Middle Ages.	10	
GRAND TOTAL	100	