

Chapel Preparation and Summer Reading for Students Entering Grade 8

Chapel Topics

Over the summer, please decide on **two** topics for your Chapel message. One of your topics will be approved when we return to school. You should consider areas of your life that are important to you (people, activities, and so forth), why they have made a significant impact on your life, and what lessons others could learn from your message. **Please type your topics and rationale on the “Chapel Topics and Rationale” Doc on your Chapel Google Classroom; you will submit the Doc at our first class meeting.**

Summer Reading Options (2 Books Total)

The following books represent a range of topics, perspectives, and experiences. All of our Grade 8 units will connect to the theme of “Identity and Justice.” For summer reading, please choose **one** book from the list below **and** one choice book you think you will most enjoy reading. You are encouraged to take notes and annotate your texts in preparation for the beginning of the school year. Upon return, students will write an explanatory essay (in class!) to examine the theme of “Identity and Justice.” While reading, keep an eye out for well-chosen facts, details, quotations, or other information/examples in both of your books. Being prepared with notes and annotations will be essential to your success on your in-class essay upon your return to school. **You will not have access to notes or annotations on a phone.**

A note to families: The Amazon links below briefly summarize each text. Please review the summary with your child and discuss what are interesting, appropriate choices. This is a great time to discuss your family’s values around entertainment, including books! I’d also suggest visiting our wonderful local, independent bookstores, such as [Looker Books](#) (Coatesville) and [Reads & Company](#) (Phoenixville).

Choose **ONE** book from the list below:

Genre	Title, Author, and Amazon Link	ISBN-13	Page Count
Young Adult Nonfiction	<i>The Enigma Girls: How Ten Teenagers Broke Ciphers, Kept Secrets, and Helped Win World War II</i> by Candace Fleming	978-1338749571	384
Young Adult Classic Literature (Fiction)	<i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton	978-0425288290	224
Young Adult Historical Fiction	<i>Beyond the Bright Sea</i> by Lauren Wolk	978-1101994870	320

For your **second book**, what book would you like to read? There's almost no limit on what you can choose!

Two things to keep in mind:

1. Your choice should be at your reading level *or higher*
2. You have not read it before (also, a movie is not a replacement for reading the book)

Your local bookseller, librarian, and [CommonSense Media](#) are great resources for suggestions!