

May 31, 2019

Re: Middle School Reading Summer Assignment

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

As we close the end of school year, summer reading becomes a very important topic at Blessed Sacrament School; also we are aware of the importance of maintaining solid reading habits over the summer. Blessed Sacrament School has enclosed a suggested reading lists for the incoming summer months.

For this summer, we will require our middle school students to read the book **Wonder** by **R.J. Palacio**, this book was selected by the ELA middle school teacher as the student's summer reading assignment. The assignment will consist of three parts that students will complete during the summer; the due date for the assignments will be the first day of school. \*Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete all three assignments. \*Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete Part 1 and Part 3. Please see attachment. Additional activities will be given to students during the incoming school year to assess and enrich their understanding of the novel.

Please encourage your children to read every day! Thank you for being the best role model for our young people.

Thank You,

**Mrs. Guadalupe E-Gutierrez**

*ELA Middle School Teacher*

**Blessed Sacrament School**  
**Summer Reading Assignments**  
**for students entering 6th, 7th and 8th grades**  
**Wonder by R.J. Palacio**

August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. *WONDER*, now a #1 New York Times bestseller, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates', his sister's, her boyfriend's, and others'. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance. R.J. Palacio has called her debut novel "a meditation on kindness" —indeed, every reader will come away with a greater appreciation for the simple courage of friendship. Auggie is a hero to root for, a diamond in the rough who proves that you can't blend in when you were born to stand out.

After reading *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio, you will complete a three-part assignment:

**\*Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete all three assignments.**

**\*Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete Part 1 and Part 3.**

**Written Response Assignments**

1. \*\*\*This ONE is required, write a letter from August's point of view (First person point of view) explaining the conflict in the story. Write the letter to a "pen pal" who does not know the other characters or the situation in which August finds himself. Letter should have 150-200 words.
2. \*\*\* This ONE is required, write a well-written essay identifying the rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution of the book.
3. \*\*\* This ONE is required, write a well-written essay explaining what you think the author's main purpose for the story is. In addition to the purpose, include a possible theme and explain it.

**All writing assignments should include basic paragraph construction including a topic sentence, supporting sentences with specific details, and a concluding sentence. Assignments should be typed if a computer is available. A handwritten assignment will be accepted.**

Each activity should be on a separate sheet of paper.