

For students entering Grades 5-8

Projects will be graded as a Term 1 assignment!

Dear Students,

Summer is a wonderful time of fun, family, and rest. Unfortunately, long breaks can cause students to forget the important skills they worked so hard to gain during the regular school year. The phrase, "Use it, or lose it." comes to mind. It really is true, if you don't practice the skills you learned, they won't stay with you for the next school year; and I promise, everything Mrs. Velarde and I have taught this year is going to come back next year! So, while summer is absolutely a time of rest and fun, we still need to practice a little bit to keep our brains sharp.

Here's how summer work goes:

1. You are going to **READ 1 BIOGRAPHY OR AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

- You need to pick a book that is good for your age group.
- *Autobiographies* are written by the person they are about, while *biographies* are written by someone else.
- A parent/guardian must approved your book.

2. Choose a project from the list on the next page.

- You may come up with your own project! Just have your parent/guardian email Mr. Shea for approval. (jshea@holdenchristianacademy.org)
- Your reports are **DUE THE FIRST MONDAY** of the school year. You will turn them in directly to Mr. Shea.

3. In addition to reading a biography or autobiography, please complete at least one of the following writing challenges:

- Create a written description of a household object. Write a new longer description for that same object every Tuesday and Thursday.
- Write a story. Add or change something in the story everyday.
- Keep a nightly journal to keep track of all the fun you have over the summer.
- Create a postcard for every place you visit this summer. It should have a picture on the one side and a description of what you did there on the other.
- Choose a passage from your Bible, read it, and explain what you learned from it. Repeat this every Tuesday. **Do not** change to a new passage.
- Create a set of step by step directions for teaching someone to brush their teeth. Make sure you are very accurate! Test you directions on a sibling or friend every week, then fix your directions.
- **GROUP CHALLENGE:** Write one paragraph of a story, then send it to a friend. Your friend will write the next paragraph and send it on to someone new. We will read the story during Language Arts in term 1 (provided it remained school appropriate).
- Go to a movie, play, or restaurant, then write a review of the performance or food. If you do this, make sure you are pretending to be a professional critic!

*****IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ A SECOND BOOK AND CREATE A SECOND PROJECT INSTEAD OF COMPLETING A WRITING CHALLENGE, YOU MAY*****

Language Arts Book Report Project List

✓ Select a scene from the book and rewrite it as a play. Include costuming, stage directions, and a list of characters. Construct puppets and present a show of the scene that you have selected.

✓ Create a newspaper for your book. Summarize the plot in one article, expose two conflicts in two additional articles, cover the weather in another, do a feature story on one of the more interesting characters in another. Include an editorial and collection of advertisements that would be pertinent to the story.

✓ Create a soundtrack for the book with at least 10 songs along with a short paragraph explaining the significance and pertinence of each song to the novel.

✓ Chose one of the main characters and rewrite a scene or the plot from his/her point of view.

✓ Create a PowerPoint presentation describing the elements of fiction (setting, plot, characters, theme and mood) as they relate to your book with at least 12 slides of animation

✓ Create a board game that incorporates the characters, setting, and plot of the novel.

✓ Create a collage of at least 20 pictures. Explain how each picture connects to the book.

✓ Make a picture book of the novel; include original artwork and illustrations. Summarize the plot of the story in at least 10 pages (setting, characters, conflicts, resolution).

✓ Write a characterization of two of the characters in the book. Be sure to include a description of what the characters look like, interests, personality, and feelings throughout the book. Use at least four quotes from the book to support your characterization. Draw a portrait to accompany each description.

✓ Written book review for Amazon.com (Please create this review on a Microsoft Word or Google doc to turn in. You do not need to post the review on Amazon)