



## 8th Grade Summer Reading

**All rising 8th grade students will read two books over the summer.** One will be an assigned fiction novel and the other will be a nonfiction book of the student's choice. See below for instructions on the work to be completed over the books.

**All summer reading assignments are due on Monday, August 15, 2022.**

### **Fiction:**

**Advanced 8th grade Language Arts** will read *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. After reading the novel, students will use textual evidence from the novel to write an essay of at least five paragraphs that addresses the following questions:

“Are words powerful? Do words have the power to change someone's life? How? In what specific ways do the power of words serve to shape the lives of the characters in this novel?”

**Standard 8th grade Language Arts** will read *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne. After reading the novel, students will use textual evidence from the novel to write an essay of at least five paragraphs that addresses the following questions:

“What is the essence of friendship? How do we see love and friendship demonstrated between Bruno and Shmuel? In what ways do the boys' similarities and differences affect their relationship? What role does innocence play in the boys' friendship?”

## **Nonfiction:**

ALL rising 8th grade students will read one nonfiction book of their choice. It must meet the following criteria:

- The reading level is middle school level or above.
- The book has not been read previously.
- The subject matter of the book is appropriate for school discussions.

One suggested nonfiction book is *Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* by Candace Fleming. This is one of the Junior Beta Book Battle titles for the coming school year.

After reading the nonfiction book, students should create a document with the following:

- A one-page summary of the book in their own words.
- Find five new vocabulary words in the book; define them and use each in an original sentence.
- Ask at least two questions they still have about the topic of their book.

**All of the summer work should be typed, double spaced in 12 point font.**