

Dear Parents/Guardians and incoming 6th grade students,

Reading is at the heart of any successful school program. Research findings from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (Langer, et al., 1990) clearly show a relationship between required reading and higher reading performance.

To help our students improve their reading skills, all incoming students at Seton Catholic Middle School are required to read at least three books over the summer. It is suggested that students choose books written by different authors. When students took the MAP test, a **Lexile range score** was generated. You can find that score on your Map Test results page that you received from school. To find a list of books at your reading level and of interest to you, go to <http://www.lexile.com/findabook/Parents.aspx> and choose a book from a list you can generate. Students should select books that they have not already read from 3-different categories. Please remember that not all books on this list will be appropriate to read based on your family values.

For each book read, you should answer one of the questions below. Answer a different question for each book. Each answer should be a well-developed paragraph of at least eight sentences. This will be the first graded assignment in Communication Arts. Assignments will be graded based on meeting the length requirements and fully answering the question. To receive full credit, you must give the assignments and the parent certification form to your Communication Arts teacher at the beginning of the school year.

1. What was your favorite part of this book? Why? (Please give details about what happened.)
2. Was there ever a time in the book in which you thought that the character made a poor decision? What was his/her decision, and why do you think it was a poor one? (You could also explain a good decision.)
3. If you could talk to one of the characters, what would you say to him/her? You could write this paragraph in the form of a letter to the character.
4. What did you learn from this book?
5. Who was your favorite character in this book? What things did he/she say or do that caused you to like him/her best out of all of the characters?

My signature certifies that _____ has read the books listed below.

(Parent/guardian signature)

Book #1

Title: _____

Author: _____

Book #3

Title: _____

Author: _____

Book #2

Title: _____

Author: _____