

Here at Christ the King Cathedral School, we know that students need some time to rest and relax during the summer; however, we also know that students who do not read during this time may fall victim to learning loss known as “summer slide.” Therefore, we require summer reading of all students, as well as accompanying assignments.

8th Grade Required Summer Reading

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

PROJECTS

The Outsiders

I. Choose **one** of the following projects:

- A. Create a soundtrack that would be a good backdrop for a movie version of the book. Keep in mind that most movies include some music without lyrics for background noise and to set the mood during important moments. A minimum of seven songs are required. The genre of music chosen should fit the setting and event. Include a play list, as well as written justification for each song choice. You will turn in a CD or digital file.
- B. Create a trivia board game that challenges the players’ understanding of the novel. Your board game must include at least twenty trivia questions, board, game pieces, and a *clear description* of the rules of the game.
- C. The Outsiders Dictionary- Compile a list of 20 words / terms specific to the time period that his novel was written (1960’s). Define each term and provide an interesting and colorful illustration for at least ten of the terms listed

The Book Thief

Parts 1-4 (pp. 3-170)

We will read the rest of the book together after school starts!

Activity – Research Project/Presentation

My research topic is_____

Utilizing a minimum of three reliable sources (Not Wikipedia!), you will build a multimedia presentation that is attention-grabbing, attractive, and most importantly, informative!

1. It must consist of a minimum of six slides representing a minimum of five interesting facts. NO TEXT should appear on slides, other than a heading or title.
2. You will present the information in an informal speech. You may use a notecard to help you to remember the facts you wish to share (notes only); you are expected to *talk* to the audience, rather than *read* to them.
3. You will provide me with a list of sources used.
4. Be prepared to present by Monday, August 19th.

I think you will enjoy both books very much. Please read them carefully! In addition to the assigned projects, you will also have quizzes relating to the books. Also, the themes and subject matter will be discussed in your Religion class, linking ideas presented in book to your life and your Catholic faith.

Questions? Contact me at ldeckard@ctkcathedralschool.org.

I look forward to working with you!

Notes_____

For Prospective 8th grade Honors English students:

The narrator of The Book Thief is Death, personified. He (It?) speaks, thinks, feels, acts. Choose another intangible concept and personify it in a well developed essay in which you introduce and explain yourself to the reader. Examples: envy, joy, faith, sorrow. One page minimum. Type the essay using a standard 12 pt. font, double spaced. Remember to give your essay a title.