

June 2, 2026

Dear 8th Grade Students,

As part of your Summer Reading assignment, you are required to read two books before the start of the school year.

Required Reading

The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton

Choose One Additional Book

Please select one book from the list below:

- *The Diary of a Young Girl* (The Diary of Anne Frank) by Anne Frank
- *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
- *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
- *The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien
- *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry (*sequel to The Giver*)
- *Night* by Elie Wiesel
- *Among the Hidden* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- YOU CHOOSE- Your book must be approved by me before reading. Email me: khirsch@saintraphaelparish.com

[Annotation Requirements](#)-Use this document to help you!

You must annotate both books as you read. Use the attached document for assistance!

Assessment

During the first few weeks of school, you will complete two activities to demonstrate your understanding of the books. In addition, there will be a written test on *The Outsiders*.

Important Note

If your selected book is part of a series and you have already read that book, you may choose to read the next book in the series instead.

Please use your summer wisely and come prepared for a strong start to 8th-grade Language Arts!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hirsch
8th Grade Language Arts