

Dear parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders,

Reading carries with it an importance that will last a lifetime. It fosters a growing vocabulary, builds empathy, and strengthens cognitive ability. Over the summer, your child will be required to read two books and complete assignments that go along with these stories. You will find the books and their assignments attached to this letter.

Also attached is a list of suggested reading materials that students can use for their own personal summer reading lists. This is not required reading, but rather a stepping stone students can use to explore their own genre interests. Students should track their reading in the reading log at the end of this packet, which will be returned at the beginning of the new school year if filled out.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you so much and have a safe, blessed, and happy summer. See you all in August, and happy reading!

Mrs. Alexis Greshock

Middle School Literature/Language Arts

Saint Ambrose Catholic School

**Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading**

**Mrs. Greshock**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade summer reading required books: *Skellig* by David Almond and *The City of Ember* by Jeanne Duprau.

***Skellig* Project:**

Mina loves the poetry of William Blake, a poet from the romantic period of Literature. His poems are filled with vibrant imagery and religious themes. David Almond brings us the same images and themes in his book *Skellig*.

**Assignment:**

Write a poem describing Skellig and what he might be (an angel, a bird – it's up to you!)

- The poem must be 10 lines
- It must have a title
- It does not have to rhyme (but it can!)
- Preferred to be typed – neat if handwritten.
- Decorate it!

***City of Ember* Project:**

If our civilization was about to come to an end, what would we do? You are the mayor of your city, and you have to come up with a plan to save everyone that resides in it. What would you do? How would you plan for the future?

**Assignment:**

Design your own underground city.

- Draw blueprints for your city. Include: a town hall, a fire house, police station, school, play ground, grocery store, storage for food, shops, homes, apartments, office buildings and your office/house as the mayor.
- On a separate sheet of paper, write how long you think your city can survive for until they can return above ground. Create at least 10 instructions on how to reach the surface. Remember – they have to be detailed enough for people to understand, and they have to be realistic!

## Extra Reading!

**Don't stop there!** Record the titles of the books you read in the Summer Reading Log attached!  
Continue to challenge yourself to read more books in different genres.

To earn a **dress down day pass**, read/record a total of 5 books... Enjoy!

### American History – Nonfiction:

- *10,000 Days of Thunder: A History of the Vietnam War* by Philip Caputo
- *The Day Lincoln was Shot* by Greg Bishop
- *The Great Fire* by Jim Murphy (Chicago's Great Fire of 1871)
- *Code Talked: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two* by Joseph Bruchac

### Biographies:

- *Amos Fortune, Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates
- *Lincoln: A Photobiography* by Russell Freedman
- *The Story of my Life* by Helen Keller

### American Classics:

- *Little Women* by Lousia May Alcott
- *Souder* by William Armstrong
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper

### Historical Fiction:

- *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry* by Mildred Taylor
- *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by George Speare
- *The Gadget* by Paul Zindel
- *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park

### Fantasy:

- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- *The Percy Jackson Series* by Rick Riordan
- The remaining books in *The City of Ember Series* by Jeanne Duprau

**Summer Reading Log – Extra Reading**

<b>Book Title</b>	<b>Book Author</b>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

**\*\*Please continue the list below if you read more than five books! 😊\*\***