

INCOMING EIGHTH GRADE SUMMER READING

This summer incoming EIGHTH graders will need to read **two** or more books. Everyone will read the required book and chose another from the list of preferred books. There is a writing assignment for the required book that needs to be turned in on or before the first day of school in a standard size 12 font. **NO EXCEPTIONS - --IF YOU WON'T BE HERE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL YOUR ASSIGNMENTS CAN BE TURNED IN EARLY TO THE TEACHER'S BOX OR SENT VIA E-MAIL gr8@mountcarmel.org.**

There is a list for suggested other books but you can go off the list if the book is at your reading level. For books read other than the required reading students need to turn in an index card with a quick simple summary of the book. Also include the title author and a parent's signature. If you read more than two books and turn in cards for them you can have points in the bank for literature. Additionally, if you read a book that deals with Social Emotional issues highlight that on the card and explain the issue. Books read with **Social Emotional** plot elements will give students points in the bank for religion.

The required book is **Chains** by **Laurie Halse Anderson**. (We did not get to finish this book with all the schedule changes in the 4th quarter)

Please answer the following questions in short well thought out sentences.

1. Role models may be found in real life and in stories. How are Isabel's momma and Queen Esther, from the Bible, her role models for bravery? Discuss the connection between bravery, courage, and fear. What is Isabel's first act of bravery? Discuss her most fearful moments. How is her bravery and courage fueled by her fears? How does she become bolder and braver as the novel develops?
2. The American Revolution was about freedom and liberty. Mr. Lockton, a Loyalist, thinks that freedom and liberty have many meanings. Define freedom from his point of view. How might the Patriots define freedom and liberty? Isabel has lived her entire life in bondage, but dreams of freedom. What does freedom look like in Isabel's mind?

(Questions taken from <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/chains-discussion-guide>)

Preferred Reading list:

Bottom of the 33rd by Dan Barry

When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt

The Boy Who Saved Baseball by John H. Ritter

The Selection by Kiera Cass

The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin (National Book Award Finalist 2015 YA)

Ghost by Jason Reynolds (National Book Award Finalist 2016 YA)

The Girl from Felony Bay by J. E. Thompson

Warp by Eoin Colfer (Any in the series)

Countdown or Revolution by Deborah Wiles

March Book 1, March Book 2, and March Book 3 by John Lewis & Andrew Aydin

These are Graphic Novels, March Book 3 won the following awards.

- **2016 National Book Award Winner for Young People's Literature**
- **2017 Printz Award Winner**
- **2017 Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner**
- **2017 Sibert Medal Winner**
- **2017 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction Winner**
- **2017 Walter Award Winner**

A Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

- **A Newbery Honor Book**
- **A Coretta Scott King Honor Book**
- **A Printz Honor Book**
- **Longlisted for the National Book Award for Young People's Literature**
- **Winner of the Walter Dean Myers Award**
- **An Edgar Award Winner for Best Young Adult Fiction**

I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika Sanchez

- **National Book Award Finalist**

The 57 Bus by Dashka Slater

- **YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Finalist**

Far From the Tree by Robin Benway

- **National Book Award Winner**