



## ST. MARYS CATHOLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING PROGRAM

As part of the ECCSS Raising the Bar Initiative, all ECCSS schools will have a summer reading program. Middle school students will be reading one of the following selections over the summer and then keep a journal of their reading. The following books have been selected for SMCMS students:

- Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders:      “Crispin the Cross of the Lead” by AVI                      OR  
   “The Witch of Blackbird Pond” by Elizabeth George Speare
- Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Graders:      “Island of the Blue Dolphins” by Scott O’Dell                      OR  
   “Rabbit Hill” by Robert Lawson
- Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Graders:      “Charlie Skedaddle” by Patricia Beatty                      OR  
   “A Light in the Forest” by Conrad Richter

The titles that are underlined are available as e-books from Amazon.com. Students are free to download the e-books from Amazon or any other source, families will be responsible for the cost of the e-book.

Students will keep a journal of their reading. The journal can be kept in a notebook, or for those students who prefer to use technology, students may choose to keep a journal in a word processing file or other digital format.

Attached you will find some tips for writing your journal. Keep it simple. A few sentences each time you read is all that is needed. In the journal, write down your thoughts, reactions, and questions concerning your reading. Use the attached Tips on Writing a Journal in order to guide your writing. All writing should be done in complete sentences.

When school begins in August, students will be asked to submit their journal to their Literature or Reading teacher. Students who completed an electronic version can submit their journal electronically as middle school students will all have email addresses. Students will only have to submit their journals after the start of school. There is no need to submit the journals before the start of school or on the first day of school. Students will receive a grade in their Literature or Reading class for submitting the completed journal.

There will not be an accelerated reader component to the program this year due to the move of the middle school into the high school building.