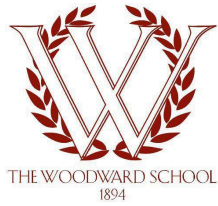


The Woodward School



THE WOODWARD SCHOOL
1894

Middle School Summer Reading 2025



June 2025

Dear Students and Families:

Summer reading is assigned to promote reading outside the classroom, and in certain cases, to prepare students for specific courses in the upcoming academic year.

All students are required to read the chosen book below over the summer and complete the related assignment. Of course, reading more is enthusiastically recommended!

Students must bring their required summer reading books with them on September 5th.

Enjoy your summer and reading!

Sincerely,

Gretchen Petersen
Associate Head of School

Middle School Summer Reading English Department

Students must bring their required summer reading **assignments** with them **the first week of school**.

Incoming 6th Grade

Book: *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

Due: First week of school

Students entering 6th grade are **required** to read the novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. As you read, think about the characters, the challenges they face, and the important lessons the story teaches. After finishing the book, you will choose **one creative project** from the list below to show your understanding of the story's characters, setting, plot, conflict, and theme. You will also complete a short in-class reflection during the first week of school.

Choose ONE Creative Project:

1. Character Collage

Create a collage (digital or paper) that highlights at least **five characters** from *Wonder* (e.g., Auggie, Via, Jack, Summer, Julian).

Include: Pictures, symbols, quotes, and descriptive words.

Explain how each character relates to the **main conflict** and **theme** of the novel.

2. Wonder Journal

Write 5 journal entries from Auggie's or another character's point of view. Choose important moments from the story.

Include: Emotional reactions, thoughts on the setting and conflict, and reflections on the story's themes.

Optional: Add illustrations, quotes, and decorative elements to bring the journal to life.

3. Wonder Character Trading Cards

Design at least 5 "trading cards" for different characters.

Each card should include:

- Character name
- Traits and personality
- A meaningful quote
- Role in the story
- Connection to a central theme

4. One-Minute Movie Trailer

Record a short trailer that tells the story of *Wonder*.

Include: The main characters, the setting, the conflict, and the theme. You can film the trailer or record an audio version if video is not possible.

In-Class Reflection (Required for All Students):

During the first week of school, you will write a short reflection on *Wonder*. You will be asked to respond to the following questions:

1. What did you think of the book?
2. What lessons or themes stuck with you?
3. How did Auggie's story make you feel?

Be creative, be thoughtful, and have fun! We look forward to seeing how you connect with *Wonder* and share your ideas.

Incoming 7th Grade

Students entering Grade 7 are **required** to read *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry and complete the related assignment below:

Create a PowerPoint presentation that demonstrates what you learned from reading *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry. Your presentation should include a minimum of 7 slides. The first slide should be a title slide which should include the name of the book, your name, and an image or picture that relates to the story. The information on the other slides should include the 5 key elements of a story; main character(s), setting, plot, conflict, and theme. Also include one slide in which you discuss your personal thoughts about the book. When discussing the character(s) focus on the personality traits, the setting should include both the physical location and time period, the plot should summarize the major events, the conflict is a challenge or problem that drives the action, and the theme is the message or moral expressed in the story. Each slide should include images that relate to the information on the slide.

Incoming 8th Grade

Students entering Grade 8 are **required** to read *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman and complete the related assignment below:

Choose one of the following to write about based on the book *Coraline*:

- Sequel-what happens next?
- Prequel-what happened before?
- Alternate ending

Your paper must be, at least, 5 paragraphs long and follow the MLA format below:

- Proper heading on the left-hand side of your paper:
 - Your Name
 - English Teacher
 - English III
 - 6 September 2023
- Times New Roman, 12-point font
- Double spaced

The structure of your paper should be as follows:

- 1st paragraph
 - o Catchy first sentence and introduction
 - o Who, what, when, where
- 2nd paragraph
 - o What happens first
- 3rd paragraph
 - o What happens next
- 4th paragraph
 - o What happens last
- 5th paragraph
 - o Conclusion