

## CKS Required Summer Assignments for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

### READING

#### Assignment 1:

- ✓ Read *The House on Mango Street*, by Sandra Cisneros.  
All writers have stories to tell about their lives, whether it is how they got their name, where their family came from, or even an amusing episode about people in their neighborhood. Sharing the stories of our lives can help us discover who we are and what's important to us. Like Cisneros, you will be required to use examples of similes, metaphors, and vivid images in your collection. Additionally, you will borrow some especially powerful or effective images from the novel to help us see how writers paint a picture of their own world employing figurative language to help deepen meaning for their readers. You will write your vignettes, brief accounts or episodes of meaningful times in your life, in whatever order you choose. Each will be different, but will give the reader an insight to you as a person. Each individual vignette must have a creative title. Your collection must include the following:
  - ✓ Four different, original vignettes (at least a page each with title; typed).
  - ✓ Be sure your vignettes are unified and organized to present your ideas as a whole collection of related stories.
  - ✓ Use effective, original similes and/or metaphors throughout the collection.
  - ✓ Incorporate at least one descriptive image pulled from *The House on Mango Street* in each vignette.
  - ✓ Include at least ten (10) new vocabulary words from the book. Make sure they are highlighted in your report.
  - ✓ Be sure to check for grammatical and mechanical errors.
  - ✓ A cover page with illustration and a title in proper MLA format.

#### Assignment 2:

- ✓ Read one book from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading list attached.
- ✓ Type a two-page book report in correct MLA format- Title and author's name and your correct MLA heading
- ✓ The book report must begin with an introductory paragraph and end with a conclusion.
- ✓ Be sure to include thoughtful topic sentences and transition sentences
- ✓ You must include one quote from the book and ten (10) new vocabulary words that you learned.

### MATH

Use the login information to gain online access to Math XL, which you'll be responsible for completing.

ALL OF YOUR READING AND MATH ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETE BY THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. MAKE SURE TO BRING YOUR COPY OF *THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET* TO SCHOOL WITH YOU.

## Entering 8th Grade Optional Summer Reading List

Use this list for Reading Assignment #2, and to help you find suggestions for additional reading this summer!

| Title   | Author                 |
|---|------------------------|
| A Tree Grows in Brooklyn  | Betty Smith            |
| Banner in the Sky   | James Ramsey Ullman    |
| The Black Arrow   | Robert L. Stevenson    |
| The Book Thief  | Marcus Zusak           |
| D-Day: The World War II Invasion That Changed History, or Dive: World War II Stories        | Deborah Hopkinson      |
| Emma  | Jane Austen            |
| Ender's Game  | Orson Scott Card       |
| Father Solanus  | Catherine Odell        |
| Fever 1793  | Laurie Halse Anderson  |
| Forget Not to Love: The Passion of Maximilian Kolbe   | Andre Frossard         |
| Girl of the Limberlost  | Gene Stratton Porter   |
| The Good Earth  | Pearl Buck             |
| The Hobbit  | J.R.R. Tolkein         |
| The House of Silk: A Sherlock Holmes Story  | Anthony Horowitz       |
| The Invisible Man   | H.G. Wells             |
| Jane Eyre   | Charlotte Bronte       |
| Kidnapped   | Robert Louis Stevenson |
| Left for Dead: One Man's Search for Justice for the U.S.S. Indianapolis                     | Pete Nelson            |
| Little Women  | Louisa May Alcott      |
| Lord of the Flies   | William Golding        |
| Lost Horizon  | James Hilton           |
| The Moonstone   | Wilkie Collins         |
| Mother Teresa of Calcutta: A Personal Portrait  | Leo Maasburg           |
| Murder on the Orient Express, The Murder of Roger Ackroyd, and others                       | Agatha Christie        |
| My Antonia  | Willa Cather           |
| Pure Grit : How American World War II Nurses Survived Battle and Prison Camp in the Pacific | Mary Cronk Farrell     |
| Red Badge of Courage  | Stephen Crane          |
| Robinson Crusoe   | Daniel Defoe           |
| Travels With Charley  | John Steinbeck         |
| Unbroken (young adult adaptation)   | Laura Hillenbrand      |