



# Westminster Christian Academy

## 7th Grade Summer Reading

### THE GOAL

We want our students to develop a love for reading—to see it as a relaxing pastime, a means to grow in understanding and empathy, an opportunity to see Truth in new places, and a time to let their imaginations soar.

### THE ASSIGNMENTS

With that hope, we are asking students to read and enjoy **two books** this summer (before the first day of school).

1. The first book is ***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*** by C.S. Lewis. After reading this book, students will write a paragraph response answering a prompt of their choosing from the options below. The details for the response are outlined below; please submit your response **by July 1**.
2. For the second book, students may **choose a book from the attached list** and should finish reading it by the **first day of school**. The second book should be a book they haven't previously read but are interested in reading. One of the first classroom assignments will pertain to this book selection and reading.

Enjoy the summer and a few good books. Happy reading!

### BOOK 1

#### Essay Prompt

We can learn a lot about our faith from literature. Though you may have read *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* before, we are asking you to read it again and consider the deeper messages and Gospel truths displayed in the story. After reading, consider the questions below and choose one of them to respond to in paragraph form. We encourage you to challenge yourself and take the time to think and reflect before you begin writing.

- What character in the book do you think most resembles you? Explain why.
- Mr. Beaver says that Aslan "isn't safe, but He's good." Discuss this quote and what it means by giving examples from the book.
- There are times when we forget what it means to be forgiven. Aslan hints at the cost of forgiveness in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Can you write about a time when you began to understand what it means to be forgiven?

### SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Please submit the essay to **summerreading7@wcastl.org** by **July 1**.
- Please title the email with the student's first and last name.
- If possible, please submit the response as a PDF (there are tutorials on YouTube about how to turn a Google Doc or a Pages Document into a PDF); if you aren't able to submit a PDF, please type your response in the body of the email.
- You will get an automatic email response when you submit your essay. If you do not receive this, please double-check the email address and resend your response.

### BOOK 1 RUBRIC & GRADING – 10 points total

- **Format: 2 points possible** – One-paragraph, typed
- **Topic Sentence: 2 points possible** – The topic sentence includes the book title and author and clearly presents the selected prompt succinctly.
- **Supporting Details: 2 points possible** – The writer references specific, vivid events from the book and/or their own life that display their position on the prompt they have chosen.
- **Analysis & Reasoning: 2 points possible** – The writing and thinking clearly displays that the writer read and understood the novel. Also, the examples given support their opinion on the prompt chosen.
- **Grammar & Writing Style: 2 points possible** – The writer pays careful attention to grade-level appropriate grammatical standards: spelling, capitalization, use of complete sentences, and correct word usage.

### BOOK 2

#### The Book

Choose a book from the list below to read and enjoy before the first day of school. Make sure to pick a book you have not read before and are interested in reading!

Parents, while we have created a reading list full of interesting and well-written stories at appropriate reading levels, we recommend researching the individual books your son or daughter chooses. Sites such as CommonSenseMedia.org or Amazon.com will help you to learn more about a book's content so that you may decide what is appropriate for your family.

#### Due Date

One of the first classroom assignments will relate to your book choice, so please come ready to discuss and reflect!

AUTHOR	TITLE
Woodson, Jacqueline	Brown Girl Dreaming
Engle, Margarita	Enchanted Air
Gruenewald, Mary Matsuda	Looking Like the Enemy
Swanson, James L.	Chasing Lincoln's Killer
Barry, Dave & Pearson, Ridley	Peter and the Starcatchers (any in the series)

Jacques, Brian	Redwall (any in the series)
Riordan, Rick	Percy Jackson & the Olympians (any in the series)
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter (any in the series)
Stewart, Trenton Lee	The Mysterious Benedict Society (any in the series)
Avi	The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
DiCamillo, Kate	Because of Winn-Dixie
Sachar, Louis	Holes
Schmidt, Gary D.	The Wednesday Wars