

2018 Summer Reading

Incoming Sixth Graders

Welcome to 6th grade English! To start our year of reading and writing (and fun!), we will read two books before school starts in August—the novel *Running Out of Time* by Margaret Peterson Haddix and the short story collection *The Chronicles of Harris Burdick* by Chris Van Allsburg. In the following document, you'll find separate directions for the novel and for the short story as well as what activities to record in your Reading and Writing Journal. Both of these books will be available at The Raven bookstore in downtown Lawrence.



****READ ME FIRST and CAREFULLY FOLLOW the DIRECTIONS****

Journal Preparation

We will use a composition notebook for tons of reading and writing activities throughout the year. I would like you to **start by numbering each page of the journal**. Page 1 should be the very first page after the cover, page 2 should be the back of page 1, etc. You should label the front and back of each page, so the last page reads 200. We will create a Table of Contents when you come to class. **Please use the correct page numbers listed for each assignment below.**

Novel

Everyone must read *Running Out of Time* by Margaret Peterson Haddix. This author masterfully describes everyday objects as well as the world in which her main character lives. We will use this work to inspire our own writing during the first quarter.

While reading this book, I want you to find **at least two** passages that provide exceptional description of a scene, an object, or an action. Please title page 5 of your journal "Running Out of Time" and **copy a sentence or two directly from the book, record the page number where you found that sentence, and explain why you thought this description was powerful, interesting, and/or unique for each sentence you chose.**

Short Story Collection

Carefully read the **entire** short story collection, *The Chronicles of Harris Burdick*. Choose your favorite story and take notes on page 7 of your journal following the guidelines below.

- **List the main character(s),**
- **Main conflict**
- **Setting**
- **One or two sentences that explain WHY you liked this story**

When you finish the short story, send me a postcard/letter/greeting card/handmade creation that includes the title of your favorite story as well as your name. It should also include your one- or two-sentence comment that explains your interest in that particular story. A parent must sign your note.

Mail your card to:

Krista Barbour
717 Maine St
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Your note must arrive in my mailbox by **August 6th**. If you are taking my summer class, *Becoming a 6th Grade Seahawk*, you are welcome to bring your postcard in that week.

If you have any questions about any of these assignments, please email me at kristabarbour@seaburyacademy.org

I look forward to meeting you and hope you have a wonderful summer!

Ms. Barbour