

Summer Reading Assignment -- 6th Grade

1. All incoming sixth graders will need to read the book *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli.
 - a. Books are available at your local library
 - b. Books can be purchased at a bookstore or online
 - c. You can find an online pdf of the book on my google sites:
<https://sites.google.com/view/bodmer-literature/6w?authuser=0>

2. After reading the book, you need to write a **letter** to me that meets the following requirements:
 - a. The date
 - b. A greeting (Dear Ms. B, Dear Ms. Bodmer, Hi Ms. B!, etc.)
 - c. A paragraph that tells me about yourself and helps me to get to know you a little bit better. You might want to include your hobbies, your interests, a little bit about your family, what you like to learn about, etc.
 - d. A paragraph that tells me about your summer.
 - e. A paragraph that tells me about the book that you read. Think about including: Characters, plot, conflict, resolution, main idea, setting, etc.
 - f. A closing signature, and your name.The letter should be AT LEAST one front of a page long, handwritten.

3. To turn in the letter, hand it to me in person on the first day of school!

Questions, comments, or concerns? Please feel free to send me an email;
bbodmer@stpius-x.com. Thank you!

Name: _____

Example of a Letter

June 18th, 2020

Dear Future 6th Graders,

My name is Ms. Bodmer, I am the middle school Literature teacher, and I am so excited to get to know you all better next year! This will be my second year at St. Pius X, and I have lots of fun activities in store for us. Over the next year in English, you will improve your academic and creative writing, practice your public speaking skills, and read a lot of great books! While our main focus this year is reading novels, I also believe that music, poetry, TV, and movies, all have a place in our classroom for discussion and critical analysis!

A little bit about me: I graduated from Siena College with a degree in English Education. I've always loved english and I hope to share that love with you all this year. I truly value my students' opinions on our readings and will give you lots of opportunities to share your thoughts through journal writing, debates, and socratic circles. In my free time I love to go swing dancing, skiing (water or snow depending on the season), hike the high peaks in the Adirondacks, and relax with a good cup of tea.

One of my favorite authors to teach is Shakespeare--if you have me for 8th grade you will get to read him in class! Shakespeare understood that language is a forever changing, malleable art form. He is credited with adding approximately 1,700 words to the English language by changing nouns into verbs, changing verbs into adjectives, connecting words never before used together, adding prefixes and suffixes and devising words wholly original. He reminds us that it's important to know the rules of language, and to know when to break them. I want my classroom to be a place where you all strive to find your own voice and feel confident developing your own creativity.

I look forward to reading your letters, hearing about your perspectives on *Stargirl*, and hearing about your summers. Most importantly, I look forward to learning a little bit more about you! If you have any questions at all over the summer, feel free to send me an email! I can be reached at bbodmer@stpius-x.com.

I hope to see you all in person this fall!

Sincerely,
Ms. Bodmer