



## Blessed Sacrament School Summer Reading List for Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Graders 2017

We encourage all middle school students to read throughout the summer to enhance reading enjoyment while increasing reading proficiency. To support these goals, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will need to read **two** required books.

- 1) 7<sup>th</sup> graders will read and complete an assignment for *Home of the Brave* by Katherine Applegate
- 2) 7<sup>th</sup> graders will read *The Mysteries of Beethoven's Hair* by Russell Martin and Lydia Nibley

The assignments will be due on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 23, 2017. Teachers will follow up with additional meaningful discussions and assignments in class once school resumes, and this may include a quiz on the material.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Book:**

*Home of the Brave* by Katherine Applegate

Kek comes from Africa where he lived with his mother, father, and brother. But only he and his mother have survived. Now she's missing, and Kek has been sent to a new home. In America, he sees snow for the first time, and feels its sting. He wonders if the people in this new place will be like the winter—cold and unkind. But slowly he makes friends: a girl in foster care, an old woman with a rundown farm, and a sweet, sad cow that reminds Kek of home. As he waits for word of his mother's fate, Kek weathers the tough Minnesota winter by finding warmth in his new friendships, strength in his memories, and belief in his new country.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Book:**

*The Mysteries of Beethoven's Hair* by Russell Martin and Lydia Nibley

At the time of Ludwig van Beethoven's death, it was a common practice to take a lock of hair from the deceased as a remembrance, a sacred remnant of the person who meant so much when alive. One such lock of Beethoven's hair survived through the years and eventually became the joint property of two men who, in 1995, opened the sealed frame that encased the hair and began the process of unlocking the mysteries of Beethoven's life, death, and possibly his genius.

Assignment for Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate

**Theme: Perseverance**

Using one of the technology site listed below create a collage of pictures, words from the text, and creative sentences that describes the theme of perseverance in the novel Home of the Brave. Think about Kek, Ganwar, and Hannah's actions and life situations and how they kept moving forward. Use examples from the text on your collage

Technology Websites for Collages:

Padlet.com	Stormboard.com	<a href="http://en.linoit.com/">http://en.linoit.com/</a>	Glogster.edu	popplet.com
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These technology web 2.0 tools are for collages and bulletin board online tools. Make sure you use the FREE educational section of the website. Play around with each one and make sure you include the items above.

The assignment for The Mysteries of Beethoven's Hair by Russell Martin and Lydia Nibley will be a STREAM activity that will be completed during the first week of school.