



ST. BARNABAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SUMMER 2017 READING FOR INCOMING 8TH GRADE

FOR THE 2017/18 SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome to the Eighth Grade Reading!

During the summer, please read the following two (2) novels and complete the adjoining activities.

1. Novel: Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt
2. Novel: Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse

Activity #1:

Theme is a novel's central idea. What is the author's message? Why do you think the author wrote the story? What do you think is the most important thing to remember about the story? Write an extended response supporting your ideas about the theme of both stories with examples from the novels.

Activity #2:

Bill, in Across Five Aprils, does not think slavery is right, but he joins the Confederate Army. In a well written paragraph, explain how he reaches his decision. Provide at least three (3) reasons from the novel.

Activity #3:

Jethro, in Across Five Aprils, thinks war is an exciting prospect in the beginning. By the end of the story, his attitude towards war has changed. In a well written paragraph, explain how he reaches his decision. Provide at least three (3) reasons from the novel.

All activities are to be submitted the first week of school (Friday) typed.

The book Across Five Aprils must be in class as well.

All writing is to be done in full sentences, paragraph form.

Watch spelling, grammar and punctuation.

You may also enjoy reading the following books. (Optional).

1. Code Orange, by B. Clooney
2. Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
3. Girl in Blue by Ann Rinaldi
4. The Pearl by John Steinbeck