

St. James School 73 Park Street Manchester, CT

June, 2018

Dear Incoming Seventh Graders and Parents,

Welcome to Grade 7 Literature class! As you know, reading is a very important skill that helps you to Exercise Your Brain, improve your vocabulary, hone all your language skills, and enjoy some quiet time being transported to places you have dreamed to visit and places you may have never even considered visiting. It is important that you continue to read throughout the summer for pleasure!

We shall all read the book The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt.

This novel takes place over an extended period of time—almost a full year—and many different things happen to the main character (Holling) and his friends and family throughout the story. In order to keep track of the major events in the novel, you will fill out a calendar timeline.

This strategy will help you see the "big picture" of the novel and will hopefully allow you to be able to make connections and see how events, although far apart in time, are related to each other and effect consequences. Questions to ask as you fill in the charts are: What were the main events of this chapter? What happened to the characters (especially Holling)? Important plot highlights?

****As you read, please write a list ('bullet form') of the most important events which occur in each month. Use one index card for 1 month. If you have colored index cards, use them to make a creative presentation. If you don't have them, please use different colored markers for each month. You can also type and then paste onto the index cards.

****You need a minimum of the following main/important events. (You should list a few more than is stated here in case you may miss the main/important events in the first ones):

Sept-4 Oct-5 Nov-5 Dec-5 Jan-5 Feb-5 Mar-7 Apr-6 May-7 June-5

There will be a **test** to complete, after class discussions and activities during the first weeks of school. I hope you'll enjoy this book as much as I did!!! Can't wait to discuss it with you!

Enjoy your summer vacation and Exercise Your Brain!

May the Lord keep you safe! I look forward to being together again in September!