

# SUMMER READING 2022

## Seventh Grade English

Dear 7th Grader,

**Welcome! You are officially a middle schooler!** My name is Mrs. Reiss, and I will be your 7th grade English and Writing Lab teacher. I have been prayerfully preparing for us to learn and grow together this fall, and I am both excited for and humbled by the opportunity serve each one of you and your families this year!

The theme for English 7 is DEVELOPING CHARACTER. Your summer reading is selected with this theme in mind. Your assigned text is *Refugee* by Alan Gratz—a well-beloved novel following the stories of three young people who are forced to flee their home countries in search of safety and freedom. I am confident this book will offer you a pleasurable reading experience and will evoke meaningful reflections on life, empathy, and overcoming obstacles. I look forward to hearing your thoughts in August!

I pray that your summer is filled with people and activities you love. Among these, I implore you to find rest, grow in your faith, spend time with family and friends, soak up some sunshine, and find yourself lost in a good book. Hopefully summer reading will help with that last one. 😊

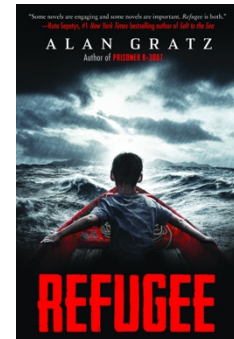
Warm regards,

Mrs. Reiss

[creiss@cslancers.com](mailto:creiss@cslancers.com)

### Summer Reading Overview:

- 1. Read *Refugee* by Alan Gratz**  
(ISBN-13: 978-0545880831, Scholastic Press)  
As you read, ask yourself: *What challenges does each character face? How does each character grow or change in light of those challenges?*
- 2. Discuss the reading** with a parent or guardian (using the provided guiding questions) and **complete the “Parental Acknowledgment Form”** on page 2 of this document. (PRINT the form—due on the FIRST day of school.)
- 3. Complete the post-reading assignment** found on pages 4-6 of this document. Please read and follow the directions carefully. (PRINT the forms and HAND-WRITE your responses—due on the FIRST day of school.)



#### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CHECKLIST:

- Your copy of *Refugee*
- Parental Acknowledgment Form
- Completed assignment (three pages total)

# PARENTAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

## Summer Reading 2022

**Directions:** After you have read *Refugee* by Alan Gratz, discuss the reading with your parent or guardian using the questions below as a guide. Print, sign, and date this document. This will be collected on the FIRST DAY of school.

1. Summarize each character's journey: Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud.
2. What challenges did Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud face? How did each character grow or change in light of those challenges?
3. What did YOU learn from reading this book? What are your take-aways?

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**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read *Refugee* in its entirety and have discussed the reading with my parent or guardian.

The summer reading assignment I am completing will represent ONLY MY OWN thoughts and ideas—no additional brains or sources will be consulted.

I understand that I am responsible for the content of the text and am prepared to participate in discussions, complete in-class assignments, and take an assessment based on the text.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# ASSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

After reading *Refugee* by Alan Gratz, print the following three pages. Decorate half a page for each character—Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud—that represents his or her journey as a refugee. Your decorations will go in the box at the top of each page and must consist of at least **five drawings** that symbolize that character’s story. Your drawings may include but are not limited to the following: *the refugee’s home country, encounters while traveling, final outcomes, personal interests, conflicts, hopes, and desires*. Be creative!

After you have drawn your five symbols, complete each corresponding chart. In the “symbol” column, name or describe each item you drew. In the “explanation” column, explain how each item that you drew represents that character’s journey. Your **descriptions** must be at least *2-3 complete sentences in length*.

All responses must be HAND-WRITTEN and must reflect only YOUR thoughts and ideas—no additional brains or sources should be consulted. This assignment, along with your Parental Acknowledgment Form, will be collected on the FIRST DAY of school. Be prepared to share and discuss your work! 😊

# JOSEF LANDAU

SYMBOL	EXPLANATION

# ISABEL FERNANDEZ

SYMBOL	EXPLANATION

# MAHMOUD BISHARA

SYMBOL	EXPLANATION