The Petrides School Educational Excellence for the 21st Century
715 Ocean Terrace Staten Island, New York 10301
Telephone (718) 815 - 0186 Fax (718) 815 - 9538
Joanne Buckheit, Principal
BettyAnn Souffrin, Assistant Principal

Mandatory Assignment: Students in grades 6,7 and 8 are required to read one Non-Fiction and one Fiction novel.

Grade	Required Reading	Author
6	• A Biography, Autobiography or Memoir of your choice on a strong person • Heat	• Some suggestions: Lance Armstrong, Nelson mandella, Martin Luther King Jr.… • Mike Lupica
7	• Chasing Lincoln's Killer • Hoot	• James L. Swanson • Carl Hiassen
8	• A Biography, Autobiography, or Memoir of a historical figure from the 1900s • The Giver	• Some suggestions: FDR, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Hitler • Lois Lowry

- This year we have decided to include a special incentive/prize for students who submit their summer reading assignments to their English Language Arts teacher on or before September 14, 2012.

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Project Description/Checklist for the Fiction Novel
MINI – Magazine

	Project Requirement	✓
	• Front Cover ○ A creative, original or thought provoking title. This should be in large lettering at the top of your front cover. ○ Your cover should be colorful and interesting to the reader.	
	• Interview Section ○ Create five questions for the main character in your book. ○ Then use your questions to *pretend* interview the main character. Write your responses in short answer form. (Just like in a magazine!)	
	• Theme Section ○ Identify the theme of the story. ○ Write an article describing the theme of this story. ○ Use quotes from the book as text evidence to support your understanding of the theme. ○ Make a self to text connection to show how this theme can be evident in real life.	
	• Conflict Section ○ Identify a conflict of the main character. ○ Break down the two sides of this argument. ○ Write an article about this conflict and a possible resolution. The resolution could be from the story or you can create an extension to the story.	

Project Description/Checklist for the Non – Fiction Novel
DEAR DIARY

	Project Requirement	✓
	You will be writing diary entries as if you were reliving events in the life of the main character in your non – fiction text. You should write in the first person, meaning you are writing as if you are the main character of your book. EACH ENTRY MUST BE AT LEAST 2 PARAGRAPHS.	
	• Entry #1 ○ Must be a reflection of an important day in the life of your character.	
	• Entry # 2 ○ Describe an interaction the main character had with another person in the story.	
	• Entry # 3 ○ Develop a timeline of at least 5 important events in the life of the main character. Include accurate dates on your timeline and pictures.	
	• Entry # 4 ○ Point out an obstacle/ challenge the main character has overcome and describe how the main character has persevered throughout his or her life. ○ Speculate how an alternative course of action could have affected the main character's life.	
	• Entry # 5 ○ Formulate a goal for the main character of your novel. Explain what the main character needs to do to achieve this goal.	

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Dear Diary Project Rubric

Name _____

Grade _____

Comments: _____

Category	4	3	2	1
Entry 1	Includes more than 2 paragraphs reflecting an important day in the life of the main character without extraneous details.	Includes 2 paragraphs in 1st person reflecting an important day in the life of the main character.	Includes less than 2 paragraphs. Is not in 1st person. Reflects an important day in the life of the main character.	Does not reflect an important day in the life of the main character.
Entry 2	Includes more than 2 paragraphs describing an interaction the main character had with more than one person in the story.	Includes 2 paragraphs in 1st person describing an interaction the main character had with another person in the story.	Includes less than 2 paragraphs. Is not in 1st person. Stated an interaction the main character had with another person in the story.	An interaction with the main character and another person in the story is not evident.
Entry 3	The timeline includes more than 5 important events in the life of the main character or with elaborate details for each event were written.	The timeline includes 5 important events in the life of the main character. Accurate dates and pictures are included.	May have 5 important events, but is missing dates and/or pictures.	Does not have 5 important events with dates and/or picutres.
Entry 4	Includes more than one obstacle the main character has overcome.	Includes 2 paragraphs in 1st person. An obstacle the main character has overcome, how the main character has persevered throughout it and an alternative course of action is clearly stated.	Includes less than 2 paragraphs. Is not in 1st person. The challenge the main character has overcome is stated. The alternative course of action and how they persevered through it is unclear.	It is unclear what the main character's obstacle is and how they overcame it. There is no alternative course of action.
Entry 5	May include more than 2 paragraphs and/or more than one goal and ways to achieve the goal.	Includes 2 paragraphs in 1st person. Includes a goal for the main character and what they need to do to achieve the goal.	The goal is a not clearly stated for the main character and what they need to do to achieve the goal.	The goal is not stated for the main character and what they need to do to achieve the goal.
Grammar	There are no grammatical errors.	There is 1 grammatical error.	There are 2-3 grammatical errors.	There are more than 3 grammatical errors.
Spelling	There are no spelling errors.	There are 4 or fewer spelling errors.	There are 7 or fewer spelling errors.	There are more than 7 spelling errors.

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MINI Magazine Project Rubric

Name _____

Grade _____

Comments: _____

Category	4	3	2	1
Front Cover	Title was creative, original, or thought provoking, it was colorful and interesting to the reader.	Has an original title and is colorful.	Includes an original title	Front cover is not colorful and does not have an original title.
Interview Section	There were at least 5 thoughtful questions and responses from the main character.	Includes 5 questions and responses from the main character.	Includes less than 2-4 questions and responses from the main character.	Includes less than 2 questions and/or no responses from the main character.
Theme Section	The theme was clearly understood from the article written. There were many quotes for text evidence and text-to-self connections made.	Includes the theme, quotes and self to text connection within an article.	Includes the theme, but there is no text evidence and/or no self to text connection.	There is no theme written.
Conflict Section	The conflict was clearly evident with an argument from both sides, a resolution and an extension of the story.	The conflict of the main character was clear and it included a possible resolution or extension of the story.	There was a conflict, but no resolution or extension.	The conflict was not clearly stated.
Grammar	There are no grammatical errors.	There is 1 grammatical error.	There are 2-3 grammatical errors.	There are more than 3 grammatical errors.
Spelling	There are no spelling errors.	There are 4 or fewer spelling errors.	There are 7 or fewer spelling errors.	There are more than 7 spelling errors.

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Middle School Extra Credit Summer Assignment
BOOK REVIEW

Name _____ Grade _____

Book Title _____ Author _____

What genre is the book? Circle or check from the list below:

Biography	History
Science	Realistic Fiction
Adventure	Fantasy
Sports	Science Fiction
Mystery	Humor

Complete the following:

1. Discuss the main events of the story in sequence.

2. Who was your favorite character in the book? Give reasons and give details from the story to support your answer.

3. How would you rank this book?

1 = poor 2 = fair 3 = good 4 = great (circle the happy faces)

4. Justify why you would recommend this book to a friend?