

June 2024

Incoming 8th Grade Summer Reading  
(for students going into 8th grade)

Dear Students and Parents;

The summer reading assignment for incoming 8th graders is *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin. Students will need to purchase a copy of the book and follow the directions for annotating the text as they read. They will be focusing on character development which is where the 7th grade reading left off.

The assignment directions are attached. In addition to the novel, students will need a set of highlighters. The books will be collected and checked in August for a completion grade, and returned to the students to use as they begin their 8th grade year in reading and writing about literature. A notebook is optional and can be submitted for those who may not have access to their own copy of the book.

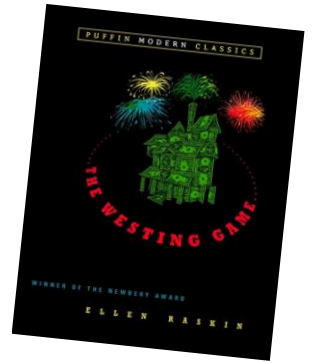
Through the annotations, students should be prepared to not only test on comprehension, but also have their texts ready for discussion and written assignments based on the characters in the novel. This book will also be a springboard for adding the additional elements of setting and plot and provide an opportunity to compare and contrast a classic theme.

If parents or students have any questions, please contact Mrs. Owens at [dowens@saintagnes.com](mailto:dowens@saintagnes.com)

Happy Summer!

## Summer Reading for Incoming Grade 8

### *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin



All students will have 2 activities regarding this reading assignment:

- A test will be given on Tuesday, August 20 to test book comprehension.
- Annotate the book using the following guidelines:
  - Use a highlighter to color code.
  - **Highlight challenging words (words you do not know) in GREEN.**
  - Choose one Character and **highlight descriptive details** (based on what he or she says/dialogue or does/actions/reactions) in **BLUE**.
  - Some symbols that can be used to mark important events connected to the character: problems, conflicts, actions, and resolutions (Plot) as the story progresses:
    - [brackets], \* asterisks ? Question marks, # hash tags, or other bullet points.

If you have any questions email Mrs. Owens @ [dowens@saintagnes.com](mailto:dowens@saintagnes.com).