

Gesu Middle School

Summer Reading

Due September 2, 2016 for incoming 6th, 7th, and 8th graders

All students who will be in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade in the fall must read and respond to a novel and ten non-fiction articles:

- 1) Each week, read a non-fiction article. In a journal, identify the central ideas, summarize, and apply new vocabulary. You will have at least 10 journal entries.
- 2) Select another grade-level appropriate fiction novel, at least 150 pages. Complete the summary, theme, and craft.
- 3) Optional: 7th and 8th graders are strongly encouraged to begin preparation for high school placement exams.

Math

The math summer packets are available to download and print from the Gesu website: gesuschool.udmercy.org

You may also purchase a copy from the office for a small fee.

The math summer packet is extensive and reviews most topics covered through the prior school year. It is strongly advised to work on a few pages of the packet each week rather than waiting until the end of summer vacation.

Part 1: Weekly non-fiction reading journal

Each week, for a minimum of 10 weeks, read and respond to a non-fiction article.

Write each of your 10 responses in a journal or on separate sheets of paper.

Your responses should include:

1) Citation:

- Title of article
- Author(s)
- Name of publication
- Date of publication
- Web site address, if applicable

2) Central ideas. What was the main idea that the author is trying to communicate? Include 3 or more supporting details from the text to support your answer.

3) Summary. Summarize the article, minimum 5 sentences.

4) Vocabulary. Select two unknown or challenging vocabulary words used in the selection. Include:

- a. Context: the sentence it was used in the article
- b. Definition: write the definition of the word as it was used in the article
- c. Application: write your own sentence using the word properly.

Nonfiction websites:

Newsela	newsela.com	Multiple topics in a range of reading levels
Smithsonian Teens	tweentribune.com	Smithsonian in a range of reading levels
USA Today	usatoday.com	Newspaper
New York Times	nytimes.com	Newspaper, higher reading level
FiveThirtyEight	fivethirtyeight.com	Statistical perspective on sports, politics, and culture
Science Daily	sciencedaily.com	Science
National Geographic	natgeo.com	Geography, science
The Michigan Catholic	themichigancatholic.org	Religious
Detroit Free Press	freep.com	Local news

Part 2:

Choose a fiction novel, at least 150 pages in length, and at your grade level. Complete the summary, theme, and craft.

Written component (typed, summary AND theme)

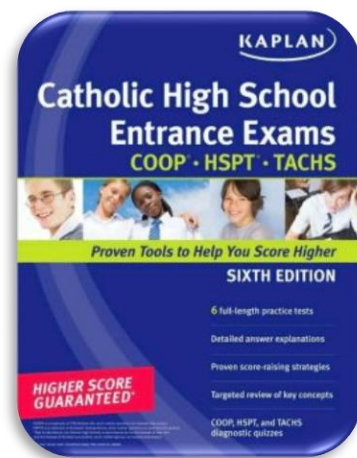
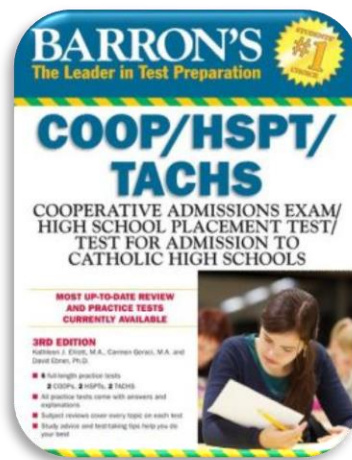
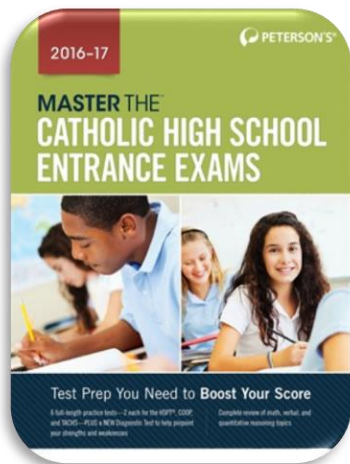
- **Summary:** Provide a summary of the text, including the exposition (setting, major characters, background information, etc.), conflict, rising actions (events leading up to the solution), climax (turning point), and resolution.
- **Theme:** What was a major theme of the text? What did the characters learn? Include at least 5 supporting details from the text with page numbers and quotes.

Craft

Choose and complete one of the following options:

- a) **Poem and illustration** – write a poem inspired by your novel. Must be at least 50 words and length and include an illustration.
- b) **Comic strip:** Design a comic strip retelling an important scene from your selection. Must include at least 8 boxes and captions. Must include color.
- c) **Interview** – Interview a major character. Ask at least 8 meaningful questions. Answers must be at least 3 sentences each. 200 word minimum.

Recommended Summer Enrichment



All incoming 7th and 8th graders are highly encouraged to begin preparation for the High School Placement Test (HSPT) that is used for admissions to Catholic high schools. The Cass/Renaissance entrance exam is similar.

Below are some options available from Amazon.com. Bookstores such as Barnes and Noble or Book Beat also offer several options.

Master the Catholic High School Entrance Exams 2016-2017

ISBN-10: 0768938953

List price: 19.99

Barron's COOP/HSPT/TACHS, 3rd Edition

ISBN-10: 1438001452

List Price: 18.99

Kaplan Catholic High School Entrance Exams: COOP * HSPT * TACHS

ISBN-10: 1419553615

List Price: 18.95