



St. Michael's Academy 2024-2025

STUDENTS ENTERING 8th GRADE

FRECKLE

St. Michael's Academy is continuing with its digital summer activities. During the 2023-2024 school year we transitioned to using Freckle for adaptive learning. This adaptive program targets skills identified through the STARS testing your child participated in throughout the school year. Use of this program over the summer provides an opportunity for students to strengthen individual skills, master previously taught information and explore new concepts. All current students are registered in Renaissance and have access to Freckle.

Ms. Dougal's Freckle Summer Challenge requires all current students to complete their assigned amount of adaptive minutes beginning on Monday, June 17 and continuing through Friday, August 23 to earn a free dress down day during the first week of school.

***Please remember to complete the provided activity log and return it to school on the first day.

FRECKLE REQUIREMENTS FOR EIGHTH GRADE

Eighth grade teachers require students to spend a total of 480 minutes split between Freckle English (240 minutes) and Math activities (240 minutes) over the summer. This averages out to about 60 minutes per week. Appropriate activities are available upon student login.

Science and Social Studies activities are optional but DO NOT count towards the dress down challenge.

SUPPLY LIST

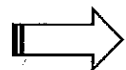
The following supplies are items that the student should have personally available on a daily basis. The classroom teacher WILL NOT provide any of the following items. Items will need to be replenished throughout the year.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One 1.5-inch binder | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Highlighters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 packages of binder dividers | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 packages of college ruled paper (in your binder) to start the year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blue or black pens | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 composition books (no spirals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red, green or purple correcting pens | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 composition grid/graph book (no spirals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils (for math class) | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 packages of graph paper (4 or 5 squares per inch) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pack block erasers | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 sketchpad for Art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One 4-pack dry erase pens (low odor) and eraser (for math class) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 metric/U.S. Customary ruler (cm on one side and in. on the other) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 box of crayons | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 box of colored pencils | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 package of markers | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 glue sticks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of adult scissors | |

The following items are classroom supplies for community use.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 reams of white copy paper | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 boxes of tissues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 rolls of paper towels | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 bottles of hand sanitizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 containers of Clorox Wipes | |

*Optional Purchase (\$12.99) – *Vocabulary Power Plus* – this textbook is provided to students at no charge, however a purchase of this book for individual consumable use will allow the student to be able to highlight and/or make notations in the text.



Mandatory Novels to be read throughout the year:

- *Nothing But the Truth* by Avi (**August-September**)
- *Sixty-Eight Rooms* by Marianne Malone (**October**)
- *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens (**November-December**)
- *Inherit the Wind* by Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee (**January**)
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (**April**)

*Great websites to acquire books at a very low cost is betterworldbooks.com, amazon.com, or the public library (which also has e-books available).

REQUIRED BOOK REPORTS

Choose two books from the list and complete the Middle School Book Report Form:

- *Return to Sender (2010)* by Julia Alvarez
- *Doll Bones* by Holly Black
- *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman
- *The Eyes of the Impossible* by Dave Eggers
- *Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine
- *Starfish* by Lisa Fipps
- *The Skin I'm In* by Sharon Flake
- *Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan* by John Flanagan
- *Alone* by Megan E. Freeman
- *Julie of the Wolves* by Jean Craighead George
- *Everything on a Waffle* by Polly Horvath
- *When Stars are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed
- *The Thing About Luck* by Cynthia Kadohata
- *Swindle* by Gordon Korman
- *The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had* by Kristin Levine
- *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park
- *A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck
- *The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schlitz
- *Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian Football Team* by Steve Sheinkin
- *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli

BONUS ACTIVITY CHOICES

Select one or more additional titles from the provided book list to complete bonus activities for additional points to be used throughout the school year.

1. GOOGLE SLIDES BOOK REVIEW - 20 points.

Create a book review of a novel of your choice.

Must include:

- Book Title and Author
- A minimum of 10 slides (not including the title slide)
- A variety of images and text (give life to your review)
- Respond to book with your review (opinion) of the quality of the book, story, characters, etc.
- Is there a lesson/moral worth taking away from your selected story?

2. CHARACTER SCRAPBOOK – 30 points.

Pick a character from one of the books and create a scrapbook diary for them. The diary should include a cover with your character's name and should fit the character. Write at least eight entries for your character based on the events of your story (approx. ½ page typed each). Include a large variety of pictures and other scrapbook details to bring this to life. The entire scrapbook must be a minimum of 15 pages (including the cover and eight entries). Be creative – you may use a regular scrapbook or picture album to complete this project.

3. CREATE A BOARDGAME – 40 points.

Use your game playing knowledge to create a board or card game that will keep your classmates entertained. Games like Monopoly, Life, Rook, and Clue are great examples of what your final product should look like. Your game should be able to have a minimum of 3 players who will be able to identify the main characters, setting, and events that happened in your book through playing your game. Try it out before you bring it in. We will be playing these games in class during the first month of school.

4. PRODUCE YOUR OWN MOVIE – 50 points.

Using video software available to you, to star in and produce a movie about the events in the novel you have chosen.

- The movie must be a minimum of 10 minutes long. (No longer than 30 minutes.)
- Make certain to include the main events of the story – be sure to have a beginning, middle, and end.
- Think about the setting and characters from your book – bring your movie to life by incorporating these important details.
- Bring your movie to school on a DVD or flash drive that the teacher may keep until it is graded.

