

Summer Academic Requirements 2026

For Students entering 8th Grade

We are excited to welcome your child to St. Helen Catholic School for the 2026-2027 school year. All incoming 8th Grade students are required to complete the following assignments. This will help your child retain their 7th Grade skills and ensure they are prepared for a successful start to 8th Grade.

Summer Bridge Activities Workbook: Students must complete at least **40** pages (your choice of pages) of this workbook prior to the first day of school on August 10th. Neatness and accuracy count. Please check your child's work. Additional completed pages are a bonus. The book should be brought to school on the first day back from summer break. Once your child has received credit for doing the work, the book will be returned to him/her. This workbook can be purchased on Amazon using this link. [Summer Bridge Workbook](#)

AND

Required Summer Reading:

Students will independently read the required books.

- (1) “*St. John Bosco and St. Dominic Savio*” by Catherine Beebe. This book can be purchased on Amazon with the link. [St. John Bosco Book](#). Students should be prepared to participate in classroom activities related to the book during the first week of school.
- (2) Students select a **Fiction AR Book** on their Accelerated Reader (AR) reading level range (*Zone of Proximal Development* found on the STAR report sent home). The student must complete the book activity listed below, which is due the first day of school. In addition, the student will take an AR test on the book when returning to school. To determine whether a book is an AR book and to find its AR level, please search for it here: [AR BookFinder](#)

Book Activity: Literary Analysis Board

Create a presentation board that includes:

- Plot overview
 - Conflict analysis
 - Theme analysis
 - Character relationships
 - Author's purpose
 - Important quotes with explanations
 - Personal critique/review of the book
- *Students should support ideas with evidence from the text and demonstrate thoughtful analysis.

