In order to maintain reading skills and interest, Kirby-Smith students are expected to read during the summer. Sixth and seventh graders are required to read three books. One is a designated title; one is student choice among authors; and the third is completely student choice of title, author, and genre. Eighth graders are required to read three books also. Two are assigned books and one is a student choice. Students are also required to complete a reading response assignment and submit to their English/Language Arts teacher upon their return from the summer.

**Required Reading Titles are:**
- **Incoming 6th Graders** – Wonder/R.J. Palacio
- **Rising 7th Graders** – Virtual War/Gloria Skurzynski
- **Rising 8th Graders** – Out of the Silent Planet/C.S. Lewis
  
  **AND 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens/S. Covey**

**Student’s Choice from Selected Authors (not required for 8th graders)**
- Rick Riordan
- Walter Dean Myers
- E. J. McGraw
- Mike Lupica
- Sharon Flake
- Rodman Philbrick
- Cinda Williams Chima
- Margaret Peterson Haddix
- R. J. Palacio
- Rita Williams-Garcia

**Totally Student’s Choice**

Student choices should be within student’s current reading level and should be middle-school appropriate.

There are no requirements as to specific title, author, or genre.

The Writing Assignment will be based on the book Wonder for 6th graders, Virtual War for 7th graders, and Out of the Silent Planet for 8th graders. A planning sheet and instructions are included in this announcement.
THE WRITING PROMPT: Identify the main conflict in your assigned grade level book. Introduce and explain the conflict in your first paragraph (introductory paragraph). In the next paragraph (first body paragraph), explain how you determined the conflict: what evidence (quotes, scenes) did you use to come up with the conflict? In the second body paragraph, explain how the conflict intensified throughout the story: discuss 2 - 3 events that increased the tension/suspense. In the third body paragraph, explain how the conflict was resolved: what was the resolution and how did the character(s) manage to get there? Your final (fifth) paragraph should restate the conflict and summarize how it was resolved.

This assignment should be in the form of a five-paragraph essay. Planning is required for full credit!

*Use this space to plan your writing. You may use whatever kind of graphic organizer you choose.*