Columbus School for Girls

Summer Reading 2017
Form VI Humanities
Mrs. Sweeney

1. **Read *The Sixty-Eight Rooms* by Marianne Malone**

Book Description from http://www.mariannemalone.com/books.html#

"Almost everybody who has grown up in Chicago knows about the Thorne Rooms. Housed deep within the Art Institute of Chicago, they are a collection of sixty-eight exquisite – almost eerily realistic miniature rooms. Each of the rooms is designed in the style of a different time and place, and every detail is perfect, from the knobs on the doors to the candles in the candlesticks. Some might even say the rooms are magical.

Imagine… what if, on a field trip, you discovered a key that allowed you to shrink so that you were small enough to sneak inside and explore the rooms' secrets? What if you discovered that others had done so before you? And that someone had left something important behind?

Ruthie Stewart and Jack Tucker are best friends in sixth grade. Ruthie has the feeling that nothing exciting ever happens in her life, while Jack experiences every day as an adventure. *The Sixty-Eight Rooms* is the story of an adventure they have together. It starts with a field trip and ends with…well, Ruthie will never say "nothing exciting ever happens" again!"

2. Illustration Project for *The Sixty-Eight Rooms*

As a project, illustrate on an 8 ½' X 11' piece of paper a colorful depiction of a room in your home. Additionally, on a separate piece of paper, list 5-10 items that are in the room and explain what these items reveal about the people who live there.

3. Preparation for Book Discussions

In addition, read two books from the list provided on the other side of this page and prepare notes for a book discussion.

As you read, take between ten (10) and twenty (20) notes of important events throughout each novel. Next to each note write the page number of the important event you have written about.

Write your notes neatly in your own handwriting and on a lined piece of paper. Write your name and the title of the novel at the top of each of the two notes pages You should have one for each novel.

Book List for Your Second and Third Choice

(Please choose two from the list.)

Each of the following books have themes about challenging new beginnings. We will write about these stories and discuss them in small groups at the beginning of next school year. Even if you have read one of these books before, you may choose to reread it as you prepare for Form VI.

Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper

A View from Saturday by E.L. Konigsburg

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Wonder by Raquel J. Palacio

Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan