



Dear Incoming Fifth Graders,

You did it! Congratulations on finishing the 2025-2026 school year strong!

Summer vacation starts next week, and I hope you enjoy a break from school, spend time with family and friends, and have lots of fun adventures.

Summer is a great time to relax, but it is also important to keep your reading and writing skills strong. Spending a little time each week reading, writing, and practicing vocabulary will help you be ready for the new school year. The more you practice over the summer, the easier it will be to jump into new learning in the fall.

Please read the directions for the ELA summer work carefully. I encourage you to complete a little bit at a time throughout the summer rather than waiting until the end. Try to finish some work in June, some in July, and some in August. This will help you stay on track and avoid rushing the week before school starts.

Be sure to bring all of your completed materials back to school in September. The summer work will count as part of your first-trimester ELA grade.

Have a wonderful summer, and I look forward to hearing about your adventures in the fall!

Have a great summer filled with amazing adventures!

Miss Kelly Sawyer,
Middle School ELA Teacher on the Lynn Campus
Email: ksawyer@nschristian.org



Assignment #1 – Read and Annotate in Assigned Book

This summer, you will receive a book that is yours to keep and write in. As you read, use annotations or notes to mark important events, interesting details, questions you have, and evidence from the text. Writing in your book will help you think more deeply about what you are reading and stay engaged with the story. When we return to school in September, we will use these books as a starting point for class discussions and activities. Be sure to bring your book back to school with your notes and annotations so you are ready to share your thoughts with the class.

Rising 5th: A Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullalay Hunt

1. **Annotate** places where a character experiences a strong emotion.
 - Write an emotion symbol in the margin and note what caused the feeling.
2. **Identify 3 important quotes** that help the reader understand an important lesson.
 - Write a star next to the underlined quote and then explain why the quote is important.

Written Response Guidelines for Assignment #2

Please bring your written responses to school with you in September

Handwritten Responses in the Blue Book

➤ Guidelines: legible writing using pencil in the provided blue notebook, label at the top of the page Summary or Response #. Please erase any corrections before writing the correct spelling.

Assignment #2 – Quick Write Journal Responses

➤ **Directions:** Select five prompts from the list and compose a response by writing for 10 minutes for each prompt. After the 10 minutes have concluded go back and review/revise your work and check for the following:

- Punctuation
- Capitalization
- Spelling
- Strong verbs
- Descriptive adjectives and adverbs

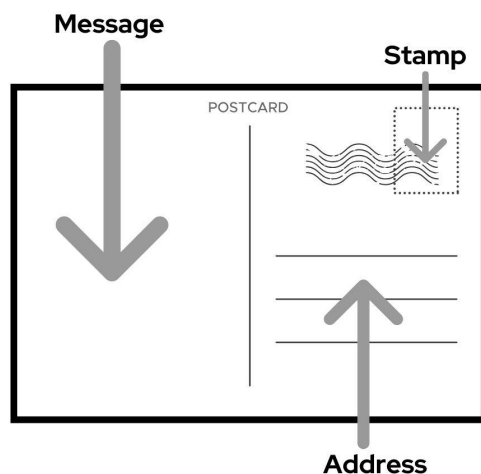
Writing Prompts (select 5 for your required written responses)

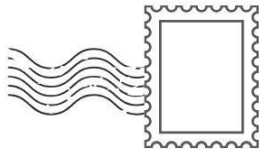
1. Describe the sounds of summer. Be creative and vivid.
2. Describe your favorite frozen treat in detail. Make the reader crave it.
3. Describe your perfect summer day using all five senses.
4. List 3 things every kid should do during summer and explain why.
5. Should kids be allowed to have unlimited screen time during summer? Why or why not?
6. What's something you want to get better at this summer? Why?
7. Which is better: a summer at the beach or in the mountains? Defend your choice
8. Which is better: camping in a tent or sleeping in a hotel? Defend your choice.
9. Write about a time you tried something new over the summer.
10. Write a short guide on how to make the best s'more.
11. Write a story that starts with: "I never thought I'd end up here..."
12. You've been hired to design a brand-new water park. What's it like?

AND/OR

Send Miss Sawyer a Postcard (each postcard counts as 1 writing response)

- Purchase or create a postcard using a 4x6 index card
- Write a note to Miss Sawyer describing how your summer is going, a recent trip that you took, or a summer camp you attended.
- Address your postcard as indicated.



POSTCARD	
<i>Dear Miss Sawyer,</i>	
	<u>North Shore Christian School</u>
	<u>Attn: Miss Sawyer</u>
	<u>26 Urban Street</u>
	<u>Lynn, MA 01904</u>
<i>From,</i> <i>Student Name</i>	