



# HOLY SPIRIT

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

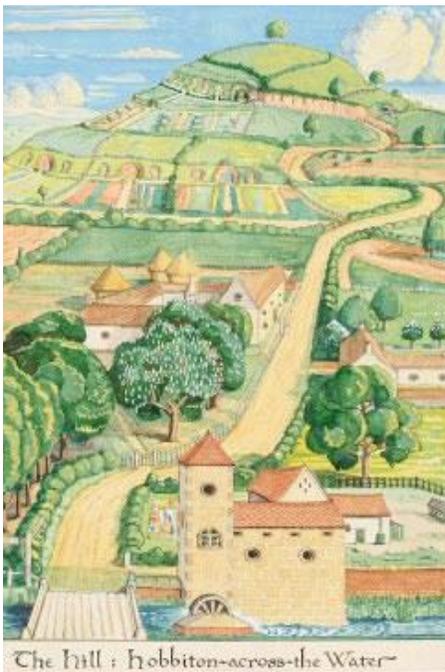
## *8th Grade English*

### Summer Assignment

Academic Year - 2022-2023

*The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

**On Reading Good Books. . .** Reading good books not only feeds the imagination and forms the intellect, it engages the reader in a conversation with the best and brightest creative thought of the centuries. Classic works close the gap between generations, enrich our knowledge of foreign lands, and teach us of fundamental human experiences in a way that history books never can. Children raised up on nursery rhymes, beautiful children's poetry, fairy tales, and folk songs - those simple, charming stories that nurture the imaginative soil and root the young mind in good culture - desire to continue in the grand adventure of life by reading good books. Here we follow various heroes and are inspired by the way they strive and overcome, are compassionate to their suffering, happy in their happiness, humbled by their shortcomings, and invested in their ultimate success. The classic good books are inspiring, and beautiful language teaches us how to speak and write and tell a story, even without explicit instruction.



During the summer months, 8th grade students are invited to read *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. In this masterful tale of adventure, Bilbo Baggins the hobbit is unexpectedly hired as a "burglar" by a brave company of dwarves, helped by Gandalf the Wizard, who seek to reclaim their treasure and home from an evil dragon. In this story the groundwork is laid for Tolkien's world of hobbits, elves, dwarves, men, wizards, the forces of good who encounter countless physical and spiritual foes, like trolls, goblins, wargs, the one ring of evil origin, and the duplicitous Gollum, all minions of an ancient enemy of darkness.



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## Assignment

**On notebook paper, students should be able to answer the following questions. Each answer should be 3 - 8 complete sentences long. Some questions will require longer answers than others. Write out the question before answering the question.**

- How does Bilbo get recruited into the party?
- What kind of a leader is Thorin Oakenshield?
- How would you describe Gandalf?
- Why are the dwarves homeless?
- How can the company defeat the dragon?
- Who is Gollum? How does Bilbo escape him?
- What are the elves like?
- What is the power of the ring?
- What are the armies fighting for in the end? Which armies are fighting?
- Is Bilbo loyal?

Contact [mverlander@holyspiritprep.org](mailto:mverlander@holyspiritprep.org) for any questions