

Cambridge School
Incoming 4th grade
2023-2024

Over the summer, you will read **ONE** book. You will read Castle Diary: The Journal of Tobias Burgess by Richard Platt. This book is a good introduction to the Middle Ages and is written in a language that will be easy to understand. There is a lot of vocabulary that will be unfamiliar to you, but the book does a great job defining the words. Castle Diary has a glossary in the back of the book to help. Once you have finished reading the book, choose one activity from the list below, or create your own activity. All activities are due on **September 1st**.

- **Create a cartoon strip:** Choose a favorite diary entry from Castle Diary and create a cartoon strip that illustrates what takes place. Do not forget to add dialogue!
- **Create a video drama presentation:** Get some friends together and recreate your favorite scenes from the story on video! Include the script you created for your drama.
- **Interview a character:** With a partner, write and conduct an interview with one of the characters in Castle Diary. One person should be the interviewer and the other person should play the character being interviewed. Think about one of the positions in the castle you did not know existed. Think about what they do on a daily basis and ask questions about them.
- **Write diary entries:** Pretend you are Tobias and write **five** more diary entries telling of your adventures, what you experienced, and who you met.
- **Make bread:** On February 13-14, Tobias talks about how the cook taught him how to make bread. Try to make bread in the same way Tobias would have. Take pictures of the experience and be prepared to tell us about the experience and the bread you made.
- **Jobs, jobs, and more jobs:** Tobias encountered many different people who worked in and around the castle. Make a list of the different positions and tell what each person would do.

- **Feast entertainment:** On August 7th and 8th, Tobias talks about the feast he experienced. He talked about some of the entertainment like the minstrel, tumblers, and musicians who were there. Prepare a dance routine, song to sing, or form of entertainment to perform.
- **Write a ballad:** A ballad is a poem which tells a story and is similar to the kind which might have been sung or told. Usually the ballad rhymes with an a-b-a-b pattern and has a refrain or chorus that repeats after each stanza.
- **Be creative:** Use your talents to make, create, build, write, draw, or perform something you read in the book. You are NOT limited to the suggestions written here.