To Rising Freshmen and Parents:

To serve our students' academic needs and provide them greater opportunities to maximize their potential for future success, the Academic Committee at Pinewood Christian Academy has recommended that the school maintain a summer reading program. We believe that our students will become more scholastically competitive if they read during the summer break.

This summer, rising freshmen will read *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck. I recommend <u>this version</u>. The novel is short--only 6 chapters and 90 pages. It is a quick and rather easy read; however, there is much to learn within those 90 pages! Steinbeck is a Pulitzer Prize winning author and his writing style is simple, to-the-point, and straightforward. I am hoping your students enjoy the novella and understand its many important lessons. If you have any concerns or would like to ask me any questions, please feel free to email me at <u>kblaxton@pinewoodchristian.org</u>.

Students are encouraged to read and spend time with the material. We will have quizzes, tests, writing assignments, and class discussions over the novel when we return to school. There will be no assignments to complete over the book during the summer.

I am looking forward to seeing your students in the fall and I hope you have a great summer!

Thank you,

Kasey Blaxton