

Dear Parents of Incoming 5th-8th Grade Students,

Summer is almost here! While it is a wonderful time to rest and relax, students should also be keeping up with their daily reading to improve comprehension and vocabulary. Students who read over the summer will be much better prepared and ready to begin a new school year at the end of August. Students should read at least 2 of the required books for their grade level (see provided lists below), but they may certainly read more. While there will not be a required test or project on these books, students should be prepared to discuss one of their summer novels upon returning to school in August.

Happy Summer, and Happy Reading!

Mrs. Coverdale

Upper School English Teacher

Entering 5th Grade

- ***Island of the Blue Dolphins*** by Scott O'Dell (Fiction based on true events/Newberry Medal)
- ***In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*** by Bette Bao Lord (Historical Fiction)
- ***Matilda*** by Roald Dahl (Fantasy/Classic)
- ***Ella Enchanted*** by Gail Carson Levine (Fantasy)
- ***The One and Only Ivan*** by Katherine Applegate (Fiction, inspired by true events)
- ***My Side of the Mountain*** by Jean Craighead George (Fiction/Adventure/Newberry Honor)
- ***Because of Winn-Dixie*** by Kate DiCamillo (Realistic Fiction/Animal Story/Newberry Honor)
- ***Restart*** by Gordan Korman (Humor/Realistic Fiction)

Entering 6th Grade

- ***Treasures of the Snow*** by Patricia St. John (Christian/Realistic Fiction)
- ***Outcasts United*** by Warren St. John (Narrative Nonfiction)
- ***Black Beauty*** by Anna Sewell (Historical Fiction/Classic)
- ***Hoot*** by Carl Hiaasen (Mystery/Comedy)
- ***Esperanza Rising*** by Pam Munoz Ryan (Historical Fiction)
- ***Hatchet*** by Gary Paulsen (Adventure/Fiction)
- ***Life in Motion: Young Readers Edition*** by Misty Copeland (Autobiography)
- ***Threads*** by Ami Polonsky (Realistic Fiction)

Entering 7th Grade

- ***Hoops*** by Walter Dean Myers (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Holes*** by Louis Sachar (Realistic Fiction)
- ***A Wrinkle in Time*** by Madeleine L'Engle (Science Fiction)
- ***The Westing Game*** by Ellen Raskin (Mystery/Newberry Medal)
- ***Fever 1793*** by Laurie Halse Anderson (Historical Fiction)
- ***I Am Malala: Young Readers Edition*** by Malala Yousafzai (Autobiography)
- ***Towers Falling*** by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Hello, Universe*** by Erin Entrada Kelly (Realistic Fiction/2018 Newberry Medal Winner!)

Entering 8th Grade

- ***The Hiding Place*** by Corrie ten Boom, Elizabeth Sherrill, and John Sherrill (Nonfiction)
- ***The Hobbit*** by J.R.R. Tolkien (Fantasy)
- ***The City of Ember*** by Jeanne DuPrau (Mystery/Futuristic Fiction)
- ***Piecing Me Together*** by Renee Watson (Realistic Fiction/Newbery Honor & Coretta Scott King Author Award)
- ***Ghost Boys*** by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Refugee*** by Alan Gratz (Historical Fiction)
- ***The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora*** by Pablo Cartaya (Realistic Fiction/Pura Belpré Author Honor)
- ***Hidden Figures: Young Readers' Edition*** by Margot Lee Shetterly (Narrative Nonfiction)