

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

Summer is 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)
- ***Liar, Liar*** by Gary Paulsen (Realistic Fiction)
- ***In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*** by Bette Bao Lord (Historical Fiction)
- ***Matilda*** OR ***James and the Giant Peach*** 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)

Entering 6th Grade

- ***Treasures of the Snow*** by Patricia St. John (Christian/Realistic Fiction)
- ***Outcasts United*** by Warren St. John (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Black Beauty*** by Anna Sewell (Historical Fiction/Classic)
- ***The Thief Lord*** by Cornelia Funke (Fantasy/Historical)
- ***Hoot*** by Carl Hiaasen (Mystery/Comedy)
- ***Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures*** by Kate DiCamillo (Fiction/Newberry Medal)
- ***Esperanza Rising*** by Pam Munoz Ryan (Historical Fiction)

Entering 7th Grade

- ***Hoops*** by Walter Dean Myers (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Holes*** by Louis Sachar (Realistic Fiction)
- ***When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*** by Kimberly Willis Holt (Historical Fiction)
- ***Sing Down the Moon*** by Scott O'Dell (Historical Fiction)
- ***A Wrinkle in Time*** by Madeleine L'Engle (Science Fiction)
- ***The Westing Game*** by Ellen Raskin (Mystery)
- ***Fever 1793*** by Laurie Halls Anderson (Historical Fiction)

Entering 8th Grade

- ***Star Girl*** by Jerry Spinelli (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Tangerine*** by Edward Bloor (Realistic Fiction)
- ***Glory Field*** by Walter Dean Myers (Historical Fiction)
- ***Dragonwings*** by Laurence Yep (Historical Fiction)
- ***The Hobbit*** by J.R.R. Tolkien (Fantasy)
- ***The City of Ember*** by Jeanne DuPrau (Mystery/Futuristic Fiction)