

Summer 2018 Reading Recommendations

For Students Entering 7th Grade in 2018-2019

To continue to develop your personal tastes in reading and to maintain (and even increase) your reading skill level, read at least 10 full-length texts over the summer months, such as these:

<i>Belly Up</i> (Gibbs)	<i>Okay for Now</i> (Schmidt)
<i>Between Shades of Gray</i> (Sepetys)	<i>Paintings from the Cave: Three Novellas</i> (Paulsen)
<i>Chasing Vermeer</i> series (Balliett)	<i>Ruby Red</i> (Gier)
<i>Death Cloud</i> (Lane)	<i>The Running Dream</i> (van Draanen)
<i>Hidden</i> (Frost)	<i>A Tale Dark and Grimm</i> (Gidwitz)
<i>The Maze Runner</i> series (Dashner)	<i>Take Me to the River</i> (Hobbs)
<i>Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf</i> (Holm)	<i>Ungifted</i> (Korman)
<i>Navigating Early</i> (Vanderpool)	<i>When You Reach Me</i> (Stead)
<i>Notes from an Accidental Bank Geek</i> (Dionne)	<i>Wish</i> (Monninger)

To prepare specifically for the study of memoir and personal narratives (ELA 7 and ELA 7 Honors), read texts such as these:

- *We Beat the Street*, by Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt with Sharon Draper
- *The Warrior's Heart: Becoming a Man of Compassion and Courage* by Eric Greitens
- *The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child* by Francisco Jimenez
- *Boy: Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl
- *Guys Read: Funny Business* by Jon Scieszka
- *Bad Boy* by Walter Dean Myers
- *Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board* by Bethany Hamilton

To prepare for the study of expository writing (ELA 7 and ELA 7 Honors), read texts such as these:

- *Lincoln's Grave Robbers* by Steve Sheinkin
- *How They Croaked!* By Georgia Bragg
- *Spies of Mississippi* by Rick Bowers
- *Every Bone Tells a Story* by Jill Rubalcaba and Peter Robertshaw
- *Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul: Teens Talk Middle School*, edited by Jack Canfield
- *Guts: The True Stories behind Hatchet and the Brian Books* by Gary Paulsen
- *An American Plague* by Jim Murphy

To prepare for the study of mythology (ELA 7 and ELA 7 Honors), focus on classical mythological tales from Greek, Norse, and Native American traditions and/or contemporary adaptations of mythologies, such as these:

- *Sea of Trolls* (trilogy) by Nancy Farmer
- *Quiver* by Stephanie Spinner
- *The Great God Pan* by Donna Jo Napoli
- *The Sword of Summer* by Rick Riordan
- *The Lost Sun* by Tessa Gratton

To prepare for the "Journeys and Passages" unit of study (ELA 7 and ELA 7 Honors), focus on hero-like characters who undertake both literal and figurative journeys, such as these:

- *One Came Home* by Amy Timberlake
- *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Rodman Philbrick
- *The Wanderer* by Sharon Creech
- *A Soldier's Secret: The Incredible True Story of Sarah Edmonds* by Marissa Moss
- *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C. S. Lewis
- *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata
- *The Nethergrim* by Matthew Jobin
- *It's a Wonderful Death* by Sarah Schmitt
- *The Boundless* by Kenneth Oppel
- *Boys in the Boat*, young readers adaptation (Brown)

To prepare for the “Dramatically Speaking” unit of study (ELA 7 Honors only), focus on dramatic text structures by reading plays and books about theatre, such as these:

- *The Phantom Tollbooth* (play) by Norton Juster
- *The BFG: A Set of Plays* by Roald Dahl
- *Pushing Up the Sky: Seven Native American Plays* by Joseph Bruchac
- *Better Nate Than Ever* by Tim Federle
- *A Star is Born* by Walter Dean Myers
- *How to Stage a Catastrophe* by Rebecca Donnelly