

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Greetings! As the school year comes to a close and the warm, sunny days of summer beckon, we hope this letter finds you excited for a well-deserved break. This year we want you to enjoy spending time with your families as much as possible. So instead of a structured reading assignment, may we make the following recommendations: visit your local library (most have some kind of summer reading program), go to a museum (or two, or three), try an arboretum or botanical garden, take a hike (literally!), visit local historical sites, start a National Parks tour; closer to home you could camp out in your backyard, build something together as a family, start exploring a new cuisine. You get the idea!

We encourage you to read to and with your children (yes, your middle school children—they like being read to also). Grab some books from the library, or the local book store, or Amazon, and take them to the beach, or camping, or on your next road trip. Explore new people, places, and cultures...through great books! To that end, you will find attached a list of books to help your child discover new interests. Please do not limit your child to books on their “level”, if they want to try a book...go for it!

Wishing you an incredible summer filled with unforgettable adventures, both within the pages of your books and beyond. Enjoy the sunshine, relax, and let your imagination soar!

Happy reading!

Warm regards,

The Middle School Reading Team

Middle School Summer Enrichment Reading List

Pay it Forward Katherine Ryan Hyde (young readers edition)
Harry Potter (Series) J.K. Rowling
Sign of the Beaver Elizabeth George Speare
Dork Diaries Rachel Renee Russell
Freak the Mighty Rodman Philbrick
The Candymakers Wendy Mass
The Land of the Lawn Weenies David Lubar
The One and Only Ivan Katherine Applegate
Treasure Hunters (Series) James Patterson
Esperanza Rising Pam Munoz Ryan
Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life Wendy Mass
Ghost (Series) Jason Reynolds
Fever 1793 Laurie Halse Anderson
Middle School-The Worst Years of My Life Chris Tebbetts & James Patterson
Long Shot Chris Paul
Mudville Kurtis Scaletta
A Single Shard Linda Sue Park
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie Jordan Sonnenblick
The Next Person You Meet In Heaven Mitch Albom
An Elephant in the Garden Michael Morpurgo
The People We Keep Allison Larkin
Heartless Stephanie Meyer
Survivors Club Michael Bornstein
Legend Marie Lu
Inheritance Christopher Paolini
The Uglies (Series) Scott Westerfeld
Unwind (Series) Neal Shusterman
The Thief Lord Cornelia Funke
Counting by 7s Holly Goldberg Sloan
Amal Unbound Aisha Saeed
The Crossover Kwame Alexander
Divergent (series) Veronica Roth
Code Talker Joseph Bruchac

Kaleidoscope Summer Enrichment Reading List

6th Grade:

The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul (Historical Fiction)

Inkheart by Cornelia Funke (Fantasy)

Project 1065 by Alan Gatz (Historical Fiction; WWII)

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott (Semi-autobiographical novel)

Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer (Realistic Fiction)

Life of Pi by Yann Martel (Adventure)

Obsessed by Allison Britz (Memoir)

Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar (Historical fiction; autobiographical fiction)

7th Grade:

Lord of the Flies by William Golding (Adventure; allegorical novel)

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson (Historical Fiction; Revolutionary War)

Pride and Prejudice or *Emma* by Jane Austen (Novel)

The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom (Novel)

The Uglies by Scott Westerfeld (Dystopian Fiction)

Heartless by Marissa Meyer (Fantasy)

Life in Motion by Misty Copeland (Memoir; ballet)

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose (Nonfiction)

8th Grade:

The Help by Kathryn Stockett (Historical Fiction; Civil Rights)

1984 by George Orwell (Science Fiction; Dystopian)

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd (Historical Fiction; Civil Rights)

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling (Novel; disability)

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith (Novel; coming-of-age)

The Berlin Boxing Club (Historical fiction; WWII)

Imperfect by Tim Brown (Memoir; baseball)

The Raft by S.A Bodeen (Adventure; survival)