



ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Dear St. David's Students and Families:

The Summer Reading Program is an important component of St. David's educational curriculum. Reading is foundational to success in virtually every academic endeavor. Studies show that students' reading proficiency declines if they do not read over the summer break. And, although young people spend a great deal of time reading content online, their ability to attend to a lengthy and complex narrative is diminishing. Therefore, it is important that our students continue to exercise the good reading habits they developed over the school year.

The books on the Summer Reading List have been carefully selected by the faculty and librarians of St. David's School to enhance the upcoming year's curriculum and to provide age-appropriate, worthy and interesting books for students. These include literature classics that introduce students to the concepts, characters, themes, and literary allusions that have become part of our cultural conversation. Many are considered works of art that are intellectually and spiritually enriching. Also included on the lists are contemporary, award-winning fiction, biographies of significant individuals, and other interesting nonfiction. The books should be available from the public libraries or they may be purchased from local or online discount bookstores.

New this year: The *Hooked on Books* Challenge! This summer, we are excited to offer a reading incentive program for Middle School students. Those who read their grade's target number of pages will be invited to a celebration of reading next fall. Specific instructions for each grade may be found in the reading lists that follow.

The authors of *Books That Build Character* tell us that "*The voyage from childhood to responsible adulthood is long, difficult, and stormy. Good stories provide compass, chart, and bearings for the journey.*" It is our hope that among the selections of this summer's reading list and in their own reading choices, our students will discover books that will take them on amazing and exciting journeys to wonderful, life-affirming places.

Have a wonderful summer, and be sure to schedule time for reading each day. We look forward to hearing about your favorites when we return to school in August. Happy reading!

Mrs. Peggy Swearingen
Director of Libraries
Coordinator of the Summer Reading Program
April 2011



ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL
Middle School Summer Reading List 2011
Rising 5th Grade

All rising fifth graders will prepare for the fall by reading at least two books this summer: the required book and a selection from the reading list below. Students in Honors English classes must choose a third book to read from this list. At the beginning of the school year, students should come to class prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.

New this year: The *Hooked on Books* Challenge! There will be a celebration of reading in the fall for fifth grade students who fulfill the requirements and read a total of 1250 pages over the summer. Students may print out and use the Middle School Summer Reading Log to record their summer reading. The required readings count toward the page total. The additional pages may come from any books of the student's choice, and may include books not on this reading list. Recognition will be given to those who go beyond the minimum requirements, so keep on reading!

Required

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
ISBN: any edition

Island of the Blue Dolphins, a Newbery Medal Award winner, has been a student favorite for many years. Although this novel was written by Scott O'Dell fifty-one years ago, it never grows old in the hearts of readers. The main character, Karana, is left behind on an island and has to live on her own for many years. Imagine if you were Karana, what qualities would you need simply to survive? The novel teaches readers both young and old the true meaning of determination, courage, trust, acceptance, and love. By the way, Scott O'Dell based his novel on the true story of Juana Maria, who survived for eighteen years on an island off the coast of California during the 1800's.

Reading List

Adventure Fiction

A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray by Ann M. Martin
The Good Dog by Avi
Ice Drift by Theodore Taylor
Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson
Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi

Christian Fiction

The Chronicles of Narnia series by C.S. Lewis

Fantasy Fiction

Bella at Midnight by Diane Stanley
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

General Fiction

Anything But Typical by Nora Raleigh Baskin
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Defiance by Valerie Hobbs
First Boy by Gary Schmidt
Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
On My Honor by Marion Dane Bauer
Traitor's Gate by Avi

Historical Fiction

Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi
Dear America series (various authors)
A Door in the Wall by Marguerite De Angeli
Esperanza Rising by Pam M. Ryan
Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson
A House of Tailors by Patricia R. Giff
The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures by Brian Selznick

Literature Classics

Aesop's Fables by Jerry Pinkney (or other editions for children)
The Good Master by Kate Seredy
Little Pilgrim's Progress (John Bunyan) simplified edition by Helen L. Taylor
A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
The Reluctant Dragon by Kenneth Grahame
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Shadow of a Bull by Maia Wojciechowska
The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare
The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene Du Bois

Poetry

Dark Emperor and Other Poems of the Night by Joyce Sidman and Rick Allen

General Nonfiction

Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World's Strangest Parrot by Sy Montgomery and Nic Bishop
The Man Who Went to the Far Side of the Moon: The Story of Apollo Astronaut Michael Collins by Bea Uusma Schyffert

Biography

Mystery on Everest: A Photobiography of George Mallory by Audrey Salkeld
Sacagawea by Judith St. George



ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL
Middle School Summer Reading List 2011
Rising 6th Grade

All rising sixth graders will prepare for the fall by reading at least two books this summer: the required book and a selection from the reading list below. Students in Honors English classes must choose a third book to read from this list. At the beginning of the school year, students should come to class prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.

New this year: The *Hooked on Books* Challenge! There will be a celebration of reading in the fall for sixth grade students who fulfill the requirements and read a total of 1500 pages over the summer. Students may print out and use the Middle School Summer Reading Log to record their summer reading. The required readings count toward the page total. The additional pages may come from any books of the student's choice, and may include books not on this reading list. Recognition will be given to those who go beyond the minimum requirements, so keep on reading!

Required

The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling
ISBN: 978-0486410241

Prepare to enjoy one of the best-loved collections of fables that has ever been written. In *The Jungle Book*, Nobel Prize laureate Rudyard Kipling relates the exciting adventures of Mowgli, a boy raised by wolves deep within the jungles of India. The tales include such fascinating figures as a friendly, talking bear named Baloo, a ten-year-old boy who works as an elephant handler, and a mongoose named Rikki-tikki-tavi who must defend his human family from the peril of cobras in the garden. As the school year begins, we will use Kipling's excellently crafted, archetypal short stories as our guide as we dive into an exploration of the key narrative elements that comprise all works of fiction.

Reading List

Christian Fiction

The Chronicles of Narnia series by C.S. Lewis
Trailblazer Books series by Dave and Neta Jackson

Fantasy Fiction

Book of a Thousand Days by Shannon Hale
Redwall series by Brian Jacques
The Squire's Tale by Gerald Morris

General Fiction

Dacey's Song by Cynthia Voigt

Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt
Listening for Lions by Gloria Whelan
Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff
Rules by Cynthia Lord
The View from Saturday by E.L. Konigsburg
The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
Where the Lilies Bloom by Vera and Bill Cleaver

Historical Fiction

Blue by Joyce Moyer Hostetter
Chu Ju's House by Gloria Whelan
The Dreamer by Pam Munoz Ryan and Peter Sis
Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis
A Gathering of Days by Joan W. Bos
Heart of a Samurai by Margi Preus
Porcupine Year by Louise Erdrich
Rifles for Watie by Harold Keith
A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

Literature Classics

Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
The Cay by Theodore Taylor
The Ch'i-Lin Purse: A Collection of Ancient Chinese Stories retold by Linda Fang
D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths by Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire
Heidi by Johanna Spyri
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George
Old Yeller by Fred Gipson
Smoky, the Cow Horse by Will James
Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame

General Nonfiction

Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun by Rhoda Blumberg
Dr. Jenner and the Speckled Monster: The Search for the Smallpox Vaccine by Albert Marrin

Biography

Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell by Tom L. Matthews
Dear Dr. Bell... Your Friend, Helen Keller by Judith St. George
Leon's Story by Leon Walter Tillage
Hudson Taylor: Deep in the Heart of China (and others in the series *Christian Heroes: Then and Now*)
by Janet & Geoff Benge
Shipwrecked! The True Adventures of a Japanese Boy by Rhoda Blumberg



ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL
Middle School Summer Reading List 2011
Rising 7th Grade

All rising seventh graders will prepare for the fall by reading at least two books this summer: the required book and a selection from the reading list below. Students in Honors English classes must choose a third book to read from this list. At the beginning of the school year, students should come to class prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.

New this year: The *Hooked on Books* Challenge! There will be a celebration of reading in the fall for seventh grade students who fulfill the requirements and read a total of 1750 pages over the summer. Students may print out and use the Middle School Summer Reading Log to record their summer reading. The required readings count toward the page total. The additional pages may come from any books of the student's choice, and may include books not on this reading list. Recognition will be given to those who go beyond the minimum requirements, so keep on reading!

Required

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
ISBN: any edition

Johnny Tremain is an historical novel, set during the Revolutionary War in Boston. Johnny is a 14-year old talented yet arrogant silversmith's apprentice whose life is drastically changed by an accident. Johnny is forced to decide which aspects of life are most important to him, whether or not he cares about others' opinions, and the cause that is worth dying for. Rich in historical figures and events, this novel will be a wonderful connection between English and history studies.

Reading List

Fantasy Fiction

The Lord of the Rings Trilogy by J. R. R. Tolkien

General Fiction

Izzy, Willy-Nilly by Cynthia Voigt
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt

Historical Fiction

Anne of Green Gables series by L.M. Montgomery
Black Horses for the King by Anne McCaffrey
Blood on the River: James Town 1607 by Elisa Carbone
Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
The Fifth of March: A Story of the Boston Massacre by Ann Rinaldi
Good Night, Mr. Tom by Michelle Magorian
Hattie Big Sky by Kirby Larson
Let the Circle Be Unbroken by Mildred Taylor
Out of Many Waters by Jacqueline Dembar Greene
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
Trumpeter of Krakow by Eric P. Kelly
Words by Heart by Ouida Sebestyen
The Yellow Star by Jennifer Rozines Roy

Literature Classics

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell
The Children's Homer by Padraic Colum
Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
The Miracle Worker by William Gibson
National Velvet by Enid Bagnold
Peter Pan by James M. Barrie
The Swiss Family Robinson by Johann Wyss
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
Watership Down by Richard Adams

General Nonfiction

Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman
Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence by Russell Freedman
Phineas Gage: A Gruesome But True Story About Brain Science by John Fleischman
We Are Americans: Voices of the Immigrant Experience by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler

Biography

Betsy Ross: Patriot of Philadelphia by Judith St. George
Christian Heroes, Then & Now series by Janet Bengé and Geoff Bengé (choose one)
George Washington, Spymaster: How America Out-spied the British and Won the Revolutionary War by Thomas B. Allen
Joni by Joni Eareckson Tada



ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL
Middle School Summer Reading List 2011
Rising 8th Grade

All rising eighth graders will prepare for the fall by reading at least two books this summer: the required book and a selection from the reading list below. Students in Honors English classes must choose a third book to read from this list. At the beginning of the school year, students should come to class prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.

New this year: The *Hooked on Books* Challenge! There will be a celebration of reading in the fall for eighth grade students who fulfill the requirements and read a total of 2000 pages over the summer. Students may print out and use the Middle School Summer Reading Log to record their summer reading. The required readings count toward the page total. The additional pages may come from any books of the student's choice, and may include books not on this reading list. Recognition will be given to those who go beyond the minimum requirements, so keep on reading!

Required

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution by Ji-li Jiang

ISBN: any edition

While everyone endures trial and hardship in their lives, few young people experience such terrifying events as are relayed in this riveting memoir. *Red Scarf Girl*, a multiple-award winner, transports the reader to Communist China during the Cultural Revolution of the twentieth century. Torn between loyalty to her family and political expectations, young Ji-li Jiang shows great courage in the face of adversity. The inspiring way that she responds to the conflicts and challenges she faces makes this a worthy and compelling autobiography. *Red Scarf Girl* will begin the 8th grade English thematic study of the issues which matter most in our lives.

Reading List

Christian Fiction

Christy by Catherine Marshall

General Fiction

A Solitary Blue by Cynthia Voigt

Historical Fiction

Annie between the States by L.M. Elliott

The Boy Who Dared by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

Literature Classics

Around the World in Eighty Days by Jules Verne
Captains Courageous by Rudyard Kipling
From the Earth to the Moon by Jules Verne
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood by Howard Pyle
Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
The Red Pony by John Steinbeck
Rip Van Winkle by Washington Irving
Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe
The Story of King Arthur and His Knights by Howard Pyle
Tarzan of the Apes by Edgar Rice Burroughs
Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea by Jules Verne

Science Fiction

The Tripods Trilogy: The White Mountains; The City of Gold and Lead; The Pool of Fire
by John Christopher

General Nonfiction

All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot
The Flying Circus of Physics by Jearl Walker
Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine by Leslie
Dendy and Mel Boring
Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H. L. Hunley by Sally
M. Walker
We Were There, Too: Young People in U.S. History by Phillip M. Hoose

Biography

Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond by Joseph
Medicine Crow
In the Words of Ronald Reagan by Michael Reagan
The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary by Candace Fleming
My Dog Skip by Willie Morris
*The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal
Rights* by Russell Freedman