

Woodbury Jr. and Sr. High School Summer Reading Program

During the summer, all students are expected to read.

- Sixth grade students are expected to read books of their own choice. We have attached a list of recommendations.
- Seventh grade students are to choose one book from the appropriate list.
- Eighth grade students are expected to read assigned book(s) from the appropriate list.
- The Senior High School has a recommended list of books that are not required but suggested for summer reading for all students.
- In addition, the Accelerated and Honors classes should complete the required reading selection listed below.

<u>6</u>	<u>Read throughout the summer; recommendations follow.</u>
<u>7</u>	Choose <u>one</u> book from 7 th grade list.
<u>8</u>	Choose one book from 8 th grade list.
8 ACC	<u>The Wave</u> by Todd Strasser AND choice of one other book from 8 th grade list.
9 H	<u>The Bean Trees - Barbara Kingsolver</u>
10 H	<u>The Lord of the Flies - William Golding</u>
11 AP	1984- <u>George Orwell</u>
12 H	<u>The Alchemist - Paul Coehlo</u>
12 AP	1984 - <u>George Orwell</u>

Sixth Grade Summer Reading Recommendations

Students may choose books from the following list or ones that they prefer:

Avi. Crispin: the Cross of Lead. (Newbery winner) *Crispin: at the Edge of the World.*

Falsely accused of theft and declared a "wolf's head" (whom any man may kill) after his mother's death, humble, pious Crispin flees the feudal village where he was raised and the steward who wants him dead. Taken in as an apprentice by a massive, red-haired, itinerant juggler who calls himself Bear, Crispin learns about music and mummery, about freedom and questioning fate, and about his own mysterious parentage that seems to be the reason behind the steward's continuing pursuit of him. Set in fourteenth century England. Newbery Award 2002

Ann Cameron. *Colibri.*

She was little and quick and pretty. Her mother nicknamed her Colibrí, Spanish for "Hummingbird." At age four she was kidnapped, torn from her parents on a crowded bus in Guatemala City. Since then she's traveled with "Uncle," the ex-soldier and wandering beggar who has renamed her Rosa. Uncle has always told Rosa that he searched for her parents but had no success. There's almost no chance Rosa will ever find them - but Rosa still remembers and longs for them.

Pam Conrad. *My Daniel*.

Ellie and Stevie learn about a family legacy when their grandmother tells them stories of her brother's historical quest for dinosaur bones on their Nebraska farm.

Michael Dorris. *Morning Girl*.

This novel alternates between the first-person voices of twelve-year-old Morning Girl and her younger brother, Star Boy, who are Taino Indians living on a Bahamian island in 1492.

Sid Fleischman. *Bo & Mzzz Mad*.

When his father dies, Bo Gamage warily moves to the Mojave Desert home of his distant and estranged relatives, the Martinkas, and finds that "Mad" lives up to her name, Paw Paw despises him, and Aunt Juna hopes he'll help search for the gold mine that started a family feud.

Cornelia Funke. *Dragon Rider*.

After learning that humans are headed toward his hidden home, Firedrake, a silver dragon, is joined by a brownie and an orphan boy in a quest to find the legendary valley known as the Rim of Heaven, encountering friendly and unfriendly creatures along the way, and struggling to evade the relentless pursuit of an old enemy

Gary Paulsen. *The Time Hackers*.

When someone uses futuristic technology to play pranks on twelve-year-old Dorso Clayman, he and his best friend set off on a supposedly impossible journey through space and time trying to stop the gamesters who are endangering the universe..

Richard Peck. *The Teacher's Funeral: a Comedy in Three Parts*.

In rural Indiana in 1904, fifteen-year-old Russell's dreams of quitting school and joining a wheat threshing crew are disrupted when his older sister takes over the teaching at his one-room schoolhouse after mean old Myrt Arbuckle "hauls off and dies."

Jacqueline Woodson. *Hush*.

After Toswiah Green's father testifies against a fellow police officer in a murder case, the Greens are forced to enter the Witness Protection Program and give up all traces of their past.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. *The Yearling*.

A young boy living in the Florida backwoods is forced to decide the fate of a fawn he has lovingly raised as a pet.

Seventh Grade Summer Reading

Students must choose one book from the following list:

- **The Forbidden Schoolhouse** by Suzanne Jurmain

They threw rocks and rotten eggs at the school windows. Villagers refused to sell Miss Crandall groceries or let her students attend the town church. Mysteriously, her schoolhouse was set on fire—by whom and how remains a mystery. The town authorities dragged her to jail and put her on trial for breaking the law. Her crimes: trying to teach African American girls geography, history, reading, philosophy, and chemistry. Miss Crandall was "guilty" of trying to open and maintain one of the first African American schools in America. Exciting and eye-opening, this account of the heroine of Canterbury, Connecticut, and her elegant white

schoolhouse at the center of town will give readers a glimpse of what it is like to try to change the world when few agree with you.

- **Bad Boy** by Walter Dean Myers

In his own words...As a boy, Walter Dean Myers was quick-tempered and physically strong, always ready for a fight. He also read voraciously—he would check out books from the library and carry them home, hidden in brown paper bags in order to avoid other boys' teasing. He aspired to be a writer. But growing up in a poor family in Harlem, his hope for a successful future diminished as he came to realize fully the class and racial struggles that surrounded him. He began to doubt himself and the values that he had always relied on, attending high school less and less, turning to the streets and his books for comfort. In a memoir that is gripping, funny, and ultimately unforgettable, Walter Dean Myers travels back to his roots in the magical world of Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s. Here is the story of one of the strongest voices in young people's literature today.

- **The Call of the Wild** by Jack London

One of London's most popular novels, the plot storyline follows a dog named Buck, a four-year-old 140-lb. Saint Bernard and Scotch Shepard mix. Buck is abducted from a comfortable life as a pet and tossed into the maelstrom of the Yukon Gold Rush and the brutal realities of frontier life. Buck changes hands a number of times before landing in the kindly hands of John Thornton for a brief time before the story's final turn.

- **Milkweed** by Jerry Spinelli

He's a boy called Jew. Gypsy. Stopthief. Runt. Happy. Fast. Filthy son of Abraham. He's a boy who lives in the streets of Warsaw. He's a boy who steals food for himself and the other orphans. He's a boy who believes in bread, and mothers, and angels. He's a boy who wants to be a Nazi some day, with tall shiny jackboots and a gleaming Eagle hat of his own. Until the day that suddenly makes him change his mind. And when the trains come to empty the Jews from the ghetto of the damned, he's a boy who realizes it's safest of all to be nobody. Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli takes us to one of the most devastating settings imaginable—Nazi-occupied Warsaw of World War II—and tells a tale of heartbreak, hope, and survival through the bright eyes of a young orphan.

- **The Skin I'm In** by Sharon Flake

Maleeka Madison is a child burdened with the low self-esteem that many black girls face when they're darker skinned. When Maleeka lays eyes on her new teacher, Miss Saunders, she encounters someone who, she feels, is worse off than she is. Nevertheless, Miss Saunders' skin, which is blotched with a rare skin condition, comes to serve as a mirror to Maleeka's struggle. Miss Saunders is tough -- she doesn't stand for the snickers and shouts that her students hurl at her. Through this example, Maleeka learns that she can stand up to tough-talking Charlese. In addition, Maleeka over time grows to even accept Caleb's friendship, the unconditional acceptance he's been showing her from the get-go.

Eighth Grade Summer Reading

8th grade students: **must** read any 1 book from the list. All Accelerated students must read *The Wave* as well as one more book from the list for a total of two books.

Book Choices:

- **The Wave** by Todd Strasser

(required reading for all accelerated students; a recommended choice for all others.)

The Wave is based on a true incident that occurred in a high school history class in Palo Alto California in 1969. *The powerful* forces of group pressure that pervaded many historic movements such as Nazism are recreated in the classroom when history

teacher Burt Ross introduces a "new" system to his students. And before long "The Wave," with its rules of "strength through discipline, community, and action," sweeps from the classroom through the entire school. And as most of the students join the movement, Laurie Saunders and David Collins recognize the frightening momentum of "The Wave" and realize they must stop it before it's too late.

- **How to be Popular** by Meg Cabot

Do you want to be popular? Everyone wants to be popular—or at least, Stephanie Landry does. Steph's been the least popular girl in her class since a certain cherry Super Big Gulp catastrophe five years earlier. Does being popular matter? It matters very much—to Steph. That's why this year, she has a plan to get in with the It Crowd in no time flat. She's got a secret weapon: an old book called—what else?—How to Be Popular. What does it take to be popular? All Steph has to do is follow the instructions in *The Book*, and soon she'll be partying with the It Crowd (including school quarterback Mark Finley) instead of sitting on The Hill Saturday nights, stargazing with her nerdy best pal Becca, and even nerdier Jason (now kind of hot, but still), whose passion for astronomy Steph once shared. Who needs red dwarves when you're invited to the hottest parties in town? But don't forget the most important thing about popularity! It's easy to become popular. What isn't so easy? Staying that way.

- **A Child Called It** by Dave Pelzer (more mature themes)

Author Dave Pelzer shares his unforgettable story of the many abuses he suffered at the hands of his alcoholic mother and the averted eyes of his neglectful father. Someone with no one to turn to, his dreams barely kept him alive. Through each of his struggles, readers will find themselves enduring his pain, comforting his loneliness and fighting for his will to survive. This compelling story will awaken the reader to the horrifying truth about child abuse -- and the ability people have to make a difference.

- **Warriors: Into the Wild: Book I** by Erin Hunter

Fire alone can save our clan...

For generations, four clans of wild cats have shared the forest according to the laws laid down by their warrior ancestors. However, the ThunderClan cats are in grave danger, and the sinister ShadowClan grows stronger every day. Noble warriors are dying -- and some deaths are more mysterious than others. In the midst of this turmoil appears an ordinary house cat named Rusty . . . who may turn out to be the bravest warrior of them all.

- **The First Part Last** by Angela Johnson

We've all read plenty of stories about teen moms. In most of these tales, the moms are raising their babies by themselves because the dads are irresponsible, uninvolved, or just plain absent. Aren't there any good teen-age dads out there?

In *The First Part Last*, the story of a teen father's growing love for his baby daughter, Angela Johnson turns the tables as she revisits a character from her award-winning novel, *Heaven*. Bobby is an ambitious young man. An aspiring artist with talented parents, he is poised to graduate early from high school. But when his girlfriend Nia surprises him on his sixteenth birthday with the news of her pregnancy, Bobby's whole world turns upside down.

Assessment/Test in September, 2009 for 8th grade students: There will be a multiple choice test given to students on summer reading book(s) during the first full week of school.

Required Summer Reading for students entering 9th grade Honors:

The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver

Clear-eyed and spirited, Taylor Greer grew up poor in rural Kentucky with the goals of avoiding pregnancy and getting away. But when she heads west with high hopes and a barely functional car, she meets the human condition head-on. By the time Taylor arrives in Tucson,

Arizona, she has acquired a completely unexpected child, a three-year-old American Indian girl named Turtle, and must somehow come to terms with both motherhood and the necessity for putting down roots. Hers is a story about love and friendship, abandonment and belonging, and the discovery of surprising resources in apparently empty places.

Required Summer Reading for students entering 10th grade Honors:

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding

William Golding's classic tale about English schoolboys who are plane-wrecked on a deserted island is just as disturbing and relevant as when it was first published in 1954. At first, the isolated boys work as a unit, attempting to fulfill their needs and search for a rescue plan. Despite the efforts of one boy who valiantly tries to impose civilized rule, many would prefer to swim, play, or hunt the island's wild pig population. Soon rules are being ignored or challenged outright. Golding's gripping novel explores the boundary between human reason and animal instinct, all on the brutal playing field of adolescent competition.

Required Summer reading for students entering 11th grade AP

1984 by George Orwell

Although the year 1984 has come and gone, George Orwell's prophetic, nightmare vision in 1949 of the world we were becoming is timelier than ever. 1984 is still the great modern classic "negative Utopia" - a startling original and haunting novel that creates an imaginary world that is completely convincing from the first sentence to the last four words. No one can deny this novel's power, its hold on the imagination of whole generations, or the power of its admonitions - a power that seems to grow, not lessen, with the passage of time.

Required Summer Reading for students entering 12th grade Honors:

The Alchemist by Pal Coehlo

Required Summer Reading for students entering 12th grade AP:

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Recommended Summer Reading for All High School Students

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time – Mark Haddon

Fifteen-year-old Christopher John Francis Boone loves the mysteries of Sherlock Holmes so when he discovers the body of the neighbor's dog, he is determined to solve the mystery. This decision leads this remarkable boy on an exciting, often funny, and sometimes heartbreaking adventure. An autistic child, Christopher faces serious challenges. He hates to be touched. He eats only particular foods, hates noises and crowds, and has some startling ways to determine Good and Bad Days. Despite the obstacles, Christopher uses his intelligence and determination to solve the mystery. His discoveries, however, force him and his parents to confront new truths and changes in their lives.

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

Their Eyes Were Watching God is a 1937 novel and the best-known work by African-American writer Zora Neale Hurston. Set in central and southern Florida in the early 20th century, the novel garnered attention and controversy at the time of its publication, and has come to be regarded as a seminal work in both African-American literature and women's literature.

2001: A Space Odyssey - Arthur C. Clarke

In 2001 a mysterious monolith is found buried beneath the surface of the moon. This object is sending signals to the planet Jupiter. These signals are picked up by earth scientists who send astronauts to Jupiter in a spacecraft that is controlled by the super computer HAL 9000 to solve the mystery. (For Clarke, the employment of this computer presents one of mankind's fundamental philosophical questions: Can there be intelligence without consciousness? After a series of accidents and what appears to be a breakdown in HAL's operations, David Bowman, one of the astronauts is left alone as the spacecraft reaches Jupiter. There he embarks on mankind's next developmental stage, and at the end, as a fetus, symbolizes the birth of the Übermensch ("Superman").

Three Girls in the City, Black and White

Jeanne Betancourt

Shifting to an urban setting, in which the shy teenager Carolyn moves from the Wyoming countryside to Manhattan. In the city, she makes friends with Maya, a confident extrovert from Harlem, and the more cynical, withdrawn Joy. The girls share an interest in photography but have very different home lives and perspectives. Carolyn's mother died recently, and she feels her father is overprotective of her.

Annie John by Jamaica Kincaid

"The island of Antigua is a magical place; growing up there would be a sojourn in paradise for young Annie John. However, as in the basket of green figs carried on her mother's head, there is a snake hidden somewhere within. Annie John begins by adorning her beautiful mother, but inexplicably she comes to hate her. Adolescence takes this brilliant, headstrong girl into open rebellions and secret discoveries -- and finally to a crisis of emotions that wretches her away from her island home."

My Losing Season by Pat Conroy

This book is an in-depth exploration of Conroy's own senior year as a point guard at the Citadel during the 1966-67 season. This book is exciting and insightful and will appeal to anyone who has ever been a member of a team. As team captain, Conroy writes of the successes and shortcomings of his leadership and celebrates his teammates' accomplishments, in spite of their at times demonic coach. The Citadel's brutal traditions are exposed with rich details and the author's insights demonstrate growth and resilience.
