

2023 Summer Reading List

for a Community of Readers



North
Cross
School

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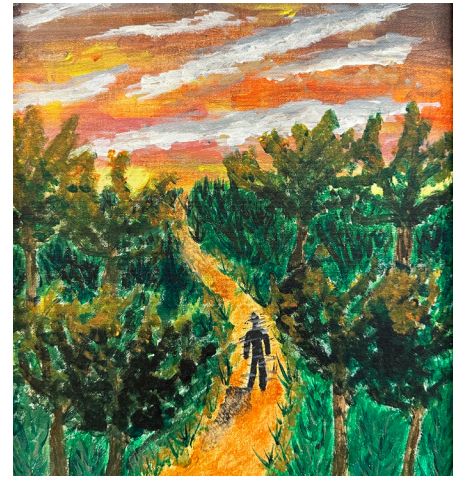
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J. Patel '25



“Be it grand or slender,
burrowing, blasting, or
refusing to sanctify;
whether it laughs out
loud or is a cry without
an alphabet, the choice
word, the chosen silence,
unmolested language
surges toward knowledge,
not its destruction.”

~Toni Morrison

A Note on Content: Parents have varying standards for the material they think appropriate for their children. All books in the North Cross School Summer Reading List have either been read by a member of the faculty or have been recommended for student reading by reputable educational institutions or other independent schools. Books marked “Mature Themes” contain material some parents may think inappropriate for some younger readers. If you have a question about a particular book, please research it on your own or check with your child’s teacher.

Message from the English Department

We all know that reading is one of the most critical components of a child's success in school and in life. As such, classroom reading instruction at North Cross begins with the youngest children in junior kindergarten and continues through the literature-based English classes in the Upper School. Of course, you were reading to your children even before they started school, before they could identify letters, probably before they could even recite the alphabet or understand the stories. Parents who read to their children from a very early age do so because they know that reading skills are valuable for practical reasons; but they also understand the more intrinsic rewards which come from shared reading time.

Before children are literate, reading time provides a wonderful opportunity to bond with your young child while helping them to increase their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Most children have a particular book they ask their parents to read over and over, being just as enthralled with the fiftieth rendition as they were with the first. As these children get older, they remember these stories and this special time spent reading.

Even after children become proficient readers and begin to read to themselves, books can still give parents a way to connect with their growing reader. Many of the books that your child reads in his or her formative years will be ones with which you are familiar. You may have read them in school yourself. These books can provide topics of conversation for family dinners, or they can provide an opportunity to discuss shared reading experiences. Did you also read that book in sixth grade? Did you experience the same reactions that your child is experiencing?

The texts chosen for the English curriculum are challenging ones meant to improve students' reading skills, but they are also meant to broaden students' horizons. They will read about other cultures. They will learn about other time periods and ways of thinking. They will be introduced to new ways of seeing their own, familiar world.

As we strive to make reading a pleasurable, year-round habit, we offer this summer reading list as an opportunity for students to choose their own adventure. We hope that they will come back from the summer with new ideas and a new love for reading, and we encourage you to share in their journey.

The North Cross School English Department



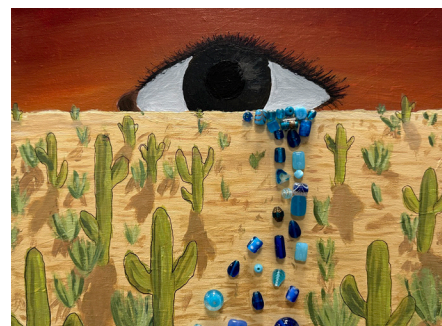
N. Eagan '23



M. Parker '26



M. Dalton '26



I. Weed '25



M. Parker '26

Lower School Reading List

“Many places you would like to see are just off the map and many things you want to know are just out of sight or a little beyond your reach. But someday you'll reach them all, for what you learn today...will help you discover all the wonderful secrets of tomorrow.”

~The Phantom Tollbooth

Rising Junior Kindergarten 3, 4, & 5

The JK-3, JK-4, and JK-5 teachers are excited to introduce a suggested reading list for our youngest students. There are no required books for JK-3, JK-4, or JK-5. The books on this list have been selected to represent a variety of subjects, writing styles, and illustration styles. We hope they will offer you and your child the opportunity to explore ideas as well as simply enjoy reading time.

Additional Resources:

<http://www.starfall.com>

<http://www.the-best-childrens-books.org/>

<http://www.readbrightly.com/>

Suggested Resource for Spanish Review:

The Complete Book of Starter Spanish: Grades PK-1 (Carson Dellosa Publishing)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/summerreading/risingJK3JK4JK5

Ashburn, Boni; ***I Had a Favorite Dress***
 Ashman, Linda; ***Castles, Caves, and Honeycombs***
 Ashman, Linda; ***Rain***
 Atinuke; ***Baby Goes to Market***
 Bajaj, Varsha; ***The Homebuilders***
 Bunting, Eve; ***Flower Garden***
 Carle, Eric; ***The Mixed-Up Chameleon***
 Child, Lauren; ***The New Small Person***
 Cornwall, Gaia; ***Jabari Tries***
 Denise, Christopher; ***Knight Owl***
 Ehlert, Lois; ***Waiting for Wings***
 Emberley, Rebecca; ***Chicken Little***
 Fleming, Candace; ***Oh, No!***
 Fleming, Denise; ***Alphabet Under Construction***
 Gravett, Emily; ***Again!***
 Hall, Michael; ***Perfect Square***
 Henkes, Kevin; ***Birds***
 Ho, Minfong; ***Hush!***
 Isadora, Rachel; ***Old Mikamba Had a Farm***
 Khan, Hena; ***Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes***
 Lewis, Kevin; ***My Truck is Stuck!***
 Martinez-Neal, Juana; ***Alma and How She Got Her Name***
 Mayer, Pamela; ***Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup***
 McLeod, Bob; ***Superhero A B C***
 Messner, Kate; ***Over and Under the Waves***
 Murphy, Stuart; ***Animals on Board; Just Enough Carrots***
 Park, Linda Sue; ***Bee-Bim Bop!***
 Root, Phyllis; ***One Duck Stuck***
 Rosenthal, Amy Krouse; ***Little Pea***
 Smith, Alex T.; ***Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion***
 Sorrell, Traci; ***We are Grateful: Ostaliheliga***
 Tafolla, Carmen; ***What Can You Do with a Rebozo?***
 Teckentrup, Britta; ***Tree: A Peek-Through Picture Book***
 Thomas, Jan; ***My Toothbrush is Missing!***
 Wood, Audrey; ***The Napping House***

Rising Kindergarteners

Requirements:

A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni

Parents are encouraged to read to their children as much as possible over the summer. Shared reading time with your child supports language development and is one of the best preparations for independent reading.

Accountability:

Students should draw a picture of their favorite part of *A Color of His Own*. Students should bring their picture with them on the first day of school.

Additional Resources:

<http://www.readingrockets.org/books/awardwinners>

<http://www.readbrightly.com/>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/blog>

Suggested Resource for Spanish Review:

The Complete Book of Starter Spanish: Grades PK-1 (Carson Dellosa Publishing)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/summerreading/risingkindergarten

Aardema, Verna; ***Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain***
 Andros, Camille; ***Charlotte the Scientist is Squished***
 Arnold, Tedd; ***Hi, Fly Guy***
 Base, Graeme; ***The Water Hole***
 Beaty, Andrea; ***Sofia Valdez, Future Prez***
 Blackall, Sophie; ***Hello Lighthouse***
 Brett, Jan; ***Town Mouse, Country Mouse***
 Cherry, Matthew A.; ***Hair Love***
 Cole, Henry; ***Nesting***
 Donaldson, Julia; ***Charlie Cook's Favorite Book***
 Edwards, Pamela Duncan; ***Some Smug Slug***
 Ehlert, Lois; ***Mole's Hill***
 Fisher, Valorie; ***Ellsworth's Extraordinary Electric Ears***
 Fox, Dorothea Warren; ***Miss Twiggley's Tree***
 Giganti, Jr. Paul; ***Each Orange Had Eight Slices: A Counting Book***
 Gilman, Phoebe; ***Something From Nothing***
 Gravett, Emily; ***The Odd Egg; Meerkat Mail***
 Grossman, Bill; ***My Little Sister Ate One Hare***
 Ho, Joanna; ***Eyes that Kiss in the Corners***
 Jenkins, Steve; ***What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?***
 Khan, Hena; ***Night of the Moon: A Muslim Holiday Story***
 Lionni, Leo; ***Swimmy***
 Maillard, Kevin Noble; ***Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story***
 McCloskey, Robert; ***Blueberries for Sal***
 Medina, Meg; ***Mango, Abuela, and Me***
 Moss, Lloyd; ***Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin!***
 Murphy, Stuart; ***Captain Invincible and the Space Shapes; Elevator Magic***
 Numeroff, Laura; ***If You Give a (Mouse, Pig, Moose, etc) ...series***
 Pinczes, Elinor J.; ***One Hundred Hungry Ants***
 Ramadan, Danny; ***Salma the Syrian Chef***
 Seuss, Dr.; ***Green Eggs & Ham***
 Shaw, Nancy; ***Sheep in a Jeep***
 Spires, Ashley; ***The Most Magnificent Thing***
 Steiner, Joan; ***Look-Alikes, Jr.***
 Tallie, Mariahadessa Ekere; ***Layla's Happiness***
 Tanumihardja, Patricia; ***Ramen for Everyone***
 Ungerer, Tomi; ***Cricter***
 Vamos, Samantha R.; ***The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred***
 Wenzel, Brendan; ***They All Saw a Cat***
 Wiesner, David; ***Flotsam***
 Willems, Mo; ***Elephant & Piggie*** (series)

Rising First Graders

Requirements:

Big AI by Andrew Clements

Parents are encouraged to read to their children as much as possible over the summer. Shared reading is one of the best preparations for independent reading.

Accountability:

Students should create a list of 10 books read over the summer independently or with a parent. This list should include the title and author of each book. Students should bring their list on the first day of school.

Suggested Resource for Spanish Review:

The Complete Book of Spanish: Grades 1-3 (Carson Dellosa Publishing)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingfirst

All Aboard Reading (series)

DK Readers (series)

I Can Read (series)

Let's Read and Find Out (series)

Ready-To-Read (series)

Step Into Reading (series)

Ada, Alma Flor; **I Love Saturdays y domingos**

Aston, Dianna Hutts; **An Egg is Quiet; A Butterfly is Patient**

Beaty, Andrea; **Rosie Revere, Engineer**

Becker, Helaine; **Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13**

Bradbury, Jennifer; **Rock by Rock: The Fantastical Garden of Nek Chand**

Brett, Jan; **The Mitten**

Cannon, Janell; **Stellaluna**

Cronin, Doreen; **Duck for President**

Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee; **Grandma and the Great Gourd: A Bengali Folktale**

Eastman, Philip D.; **Are You My Mother?**

Falconer, Ian; **Olivia**

Freeman, Don; **Corduroy**

Gilani-Williams, Fawzia; **Nabeel's New Pants: An Eid Tale**

Henkes, Kevin; **Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse**

Jeffers, Oliver; **Stuck**

Jenkins, Steve; **I See a Kookaburra!**

Lo, Ginnie; **Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic**

Marshall, Linda Elovitz; **Saving the Countryside: The Story of Beatrix Potter and Peter Rabbit**

McCloskey, Robert; **Make Way for Ducklings**

McGovern, Ann; **Stone Soup**

Nargi, Lela; **The Honeybee Man**

Polacco, Patricia; **Chicken Sunday**

Prelutsky, Jack; **The New Kid on the Block** (poetry)

Reid, Megan; **Maryam's Magic: The Story of Mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani**

Rylant, Cynthia; **The Relatives Came**

Steig, William; **Sylvester and the Magic Pebble**

Thundercloud, Ria; **Finding My Dance**

Valdez, Patricia; **Joan Proctor, Dragon Doctor**

Wang, Andrea; **Watercress**

Yolen, Jane; **The Emperor and the Kite**

Rising Second Graders

Requirements:

The Little House

by Virginia Lee Burton

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

Accountability:

Students should create a list of the books read over the summer, including the title and author of each book. They should also choose their favorite book and draw a scene from the story. Students should bring their list and drawing on the first day of school.

Suggested Resources for Spanish Review:

The Complete Book of Spanish: Grades 1-3 (Carson Dellosa Publishing)

The Spanish Workbook for Grades 1, 2, and 3 (Melanie Stuart-Campbell)

For **new** students entering second grade:

The Spanish Workbook for Kids: A Fun and Easy Beginner's Guide to Learning Spanish for Kids Grades K-5 (Jacy Corral)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingsecond

Adler, David; **Cam Jansen** (series)
 Barrett, Judi; **Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs**
 Barton, Chris; **Whoosh!: Loonie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions**
 Blume, Judy; **The One in the Middle is the Green Kangaroo**
 Blume, Judy; **Freckle Juice**
 Bryant, Jen; **A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin**
 Castillo, Lauren; **Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us**
 Cleary, Beverly; **The Mouse and the Motorcycle**
 Clements, Andrew; **Dogku**
 Cole, Joanna; **The Magic School Bus** (series)
 Coven, Wanda; **Heidi Heckelbeck** (series)
 Davis, Aubrey; **A Hen for Izzy Pippik**
 DiCamillo, Kate; **Mercy Watson** (series)
 DiPucchio, Kelly; **Grace for President**
 Faruqi, Saadia; **Meet Yasmin** (series)
 Fleming, Candace; **Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera**
 Florence, Debbie Michiko; **Jasmine Toguchi** (series)
 Jenkins, Steve; **Just a Second**
 Jules, Jacqueline; **Sofia Martinez** (series)
 Keats, Ezra Jack; **The Snowy Day**
 Lobel, Arnold; **Frog and Toad All Year**
 Marshall, Linda; **Rainbow Weaver**
 McCloskey, Robert; **One Morning in Maine**
 Minarik, Else; **Little Bear's Friend**
 Mosca, Julia Finley; **The Girl Who Thought in Pictures: The Story of Temple Grandin**
 Myller, Rolf; **How Big is a Foot?**
 Newman, Traci; **Itzhak: A Boy Who Loved the Violin**
 Osborne, Mary Pope; **Magic Tree House** (series)
 Page, Robin; **How to Clean a Hippopotamus**
 Parish, Peggy; **Amelia Bedelia**
 Silverstein, Shel; **A Light in the Attic**
 Singer, Marilyn; **Mirror Mirror**
 Sorell, Traci; **Classified: The Secret Career of Mary Golda Ross, Cherokee Aerospace Engineer**
 Stevens, Janet and Susan Stenvesn Crummel; **The Donkey Egg**
 West, Tracey; **Dragon Masters** (series)
 Winter, Jeanette; **The World is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid**
 Yolen, Jane; **The Seeing Stick**

Rising Third Graders

Requirements:

The Hundred Dresses

by Eleanor Estes

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

Accountability:

Students should create a “picture packet” of the books they have read. These packets should consist of a cover and four illustrations which depict one scene from each book the student reads. At the top of each picture, write the title and author and one sentence describing the scene. Each picture should be drawn in detail and colored. Please bring the required book and “picture packet” on the first day of school. Books will be used to complete in-class assignments.

Suggested Resources for

Spanish Review:

The Complete Book of Spanish: Grades 1-3
(Carson Dellosa Publishing)

The Spanish Workbook for Grades 1, 2,
and 3 (Melanie Stuart-Campbell)

For **new** students entering third grade:

The Spanish Workbook for Kids: A Fun
and Easy Beginner’s Guide to Learning
Spanish for Kids Grades K-5 (Jacy Corral)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingthird

Arnold, Elana K.; **A Boy Called Bat** (series)

Atwater, Richard; **Mr. Popper’s Penguins**

Avi; **The End of the Beginning: Being the Adventures of a Small Snail
(and an Even Smaller Ant)**

Brown, Monica; **Lola Levine** (series)

Citro, Asia; **Zoey and Sassafras** (series)

Cleary, Beverly; **Runaway Ralph, Ralph S. Mouse; Ramona Quimby, Age 8**

Clements, Andrew; **Frindle**

DiCamillo, Kate; **Tales from Deckawoo Drive** (series)

Gannett, Ruth Stiles; **My Father’s Dragon**

Gardiner, John Reynolds; **Stone Fox**

Gidwitz, Adam; **The Unicorn Rescue Society (series)**

Grahame, Kenneth; **The Reluctant Dragon**

Hunter, Erin; **Warriors** (series)

Jules, Jacqueline; **Freddie Ramos - Zapato Power** (series)

Kelly, David A.; **Ballpark Mysteries (series)**

Kennedy, Caroline; **A Family of Poems**

Konigsburg, E. L.; **From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler**

Lawson, Robert; **Rabbit Hill**

Look, Lenore; **Alvin Ho** (series)

Lyons, Kelly Starling; **Jada Jones** (series)

MacDonald, Betty; **Mrs. Piggle Wiggle**

Mills, Claudia; **7 x 9 = Trouble!; Fractions = Trouble!**

Nuurali, Siman; **Sadiq** (series)

Pennypacker, Sara; **Clementine** (series)

Pennypacker, Sara; **Waylon!** (series)

Scieszka, John; **Time Warp Trio** (series)

Sharmat, Margorie Weinman; **Nate the Great and the Sticky Case**

Smith, Robert K.; **Chocolate Fever**

Snicket, Lemony; **A Series of Unfortunate Events** (series)

Sobol, Donald; **Encyclopedia Brown** (series)

Spinelli, Jerry; **Third Grade Angels**

Taylor, Sidney; **All of a Kind Family**

Warner, Gertrude Chandler; **The Box Car Children** (series)

Warner, Sally; **Ellray Jakes** (series)

White, E. B.; **Charlotte’s Web**

Rising Fourth Graders

Requirements:

Because of Winn-Dixie

by Kate DiCamillo

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

Accountability:

Students should fill out the “Story Map” forms given to them by their teacher at the end of the school year for *Because of Winn-Dixie* and one other book that they have read. These forms are also available in the Lower School section of the Kemper Library website. Students will turn in their two Story Map forms on the first day of school.

Suggested Resource for Spanish Review:

Skill Builders: Spanish 1, Grades K-5
(Carson Dellosa Publishing)

Skills for Success Spanish Elementary Workbook, Grades K-5 (Cynthia Downs)

For **new** students entering fourth grade:

Easy Spanish Phrase Book NEW EDITION: Over 700 Phrases for Every Use (Dr. Pablo Garcia Loaeza)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingfourth

Aesop; **Aesop's Fables**

Alexander, Lori; **All in a Drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek Discovered an Invisible World**

American Girls Collection; various authors

August, John; **Arlo Finch** (series)

Avi; **Ragweed** (Poppy series)

Batt, Tanya; **The Fabrics of Fairytale**
Blume, Judy; **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing**

Brink, Carolyn; **Caddie Woodlawn**

Broach, Elise; **Masterpiece**

Brown, Peter; **The Wild Robot; The Wild Robot Escapes**

Cleary, Beverly; **Dear Mr. Henshaw**

Creech, Sharon; **Granny Torelli Makes Soup**

DeKeyser, Stacy; **The Rhino in Right Field**

Dixon, Franklin; **The Hardy Boys** (series)

Eager, Edward; **Half Magic**

English, Karen; **The Carver Chronicles** (series)

Fitzhugh, Louise; **Harriet the Spy**

Fleischman, Sid; **The Whipping Boy**

Fritz, Jean; **Bully for You, Teddy Roosevelt**

Fritz, Jean; **And Then What Happened, Paul Revere?**

Fritz, Jean; **Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?**

Giff, Patricia Reilly; **Nory Ryan's Song**

Glaser, Karina Yan; **The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street**

Harness, Cheryl; **The Groundbreaking, Chance-Taking Life of George Washington Carver and Science and Invention in America**

Keene, Carolyn; **Nancy Drew** (series)

Kehret, Peg; **Earthquake Terror**

Krishnaswami, Uma; **Step up to the Plate, Maria Singh**

L'Engle, Madeline; **A Wrinkle in Time**

Lawson, Robert; **Ben and Me**

MacLachlan, Patricia; **Sarah Plain and Tall**

Mass, Wendy; **Bob**

Mbalia, Kwame; **Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky**

Messner, Kate; **History Smashers** (series)

Naylor, Phyllis Reynold; **Shiloh**

Nelson, Kadir; **We Are the Ship: the Story of Negro League Baseball**

Nelson, S.D.; **Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa Story**

Rockwell, Thomas; **How to Eat Fried Worms**

Rowling, J. K.; **Harry Potter** (series)

Selden, George; **The Cricket in Times Square**

Sewell, Anna; **Black Beauty**

Smith, Steven K.; **The Virginia Mysteries** (series)

Speare, Elizabeth George; **The Bronze Bow**

Sweet, Melissa; **Some Writer!: The Story of E. B. White**

Wiles, Deborah; **Love, Ruby Lavender**

Rising Fifth Graders

Requirements:

Boy of the Painted Cave

by Justin Denzel

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

Accountability:

For each of the four books read, the student must complete the form given to them at the end of the school year. The forms ask the students their opinions about characters and plot points and also ask them to deconstruct each book by its story elements. There is a different form for fiction and nonfiction books. These forms are also available in the Lower School section of the Kemper Library website.

Suggested Resource for Spanish Review:

Skill Builders: Spanish 1, Grades K-5
(Carson Dellosa Publishing)

Skills for Success Spanish Elementary Workbook, Grades K-5 (Cynthia Downs)

For **new** students entering fifth grade:
Easy Spanish Phrase Book NEW EDITION: Over 700 Phrases for Every Use (Dr. Pablo Garcia Loeza)

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingfifth

Alexander, Lloyd; **The Chronicles of Prydain**

Auxier, Jonathan; **Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster**

Avi; **The Good Dog**

Bendick, Jeanne; **Archimedes and the Door of Science**

Bradley, Fleur; **Midnight at the Barclay Hotel**

Carter, Dorothy Sharp; **His Majesty, Queen Hatshepsut**

Day, Christine; **I Can Make This Promise**

DiCamillo, Kate; **The Beatryce Prophecy**

DiCamillo, Kate; **The Magician's Elephant**

Fleming, Candace; **Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart**

Forbes, Esther; **Johnny Tremain**

Gilchrist, Cherry; **Stories from the Silk Road**

Harness, Cheryl; **The Remarkable Rough-Riding Life of Teddy Roosevelt**

Henry, Marguerite; **King of the Wind**

Horvath, Polly; **Everything on a Waffle**

Jacques, Brian; **Redwall** (series)

Justor, Norton; **The Phantom Tollbooth**

Khan, Hena; **Amina's Voice**

LaFevers, R. L.; **Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos** (series)

Lai, Thannha; **Inside Out and Back Again**

L'Engle, Madeleine; **Time Trilogy (A Wrinkle in Time; A Wind in the Door; A Swiftly Tilting Planet)**

Lin, Grace; **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**

McAnulty, Stacy; **The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl**

McDonough, Yona Zeldis; **The Bicycle Spy**

McGraw, Eloise Jarvis; **Mara, Daughter of the Nile**

McMullan, Kate; **Myth-o-Mania** (series)

Medina, Meg; **Merci Suarez Changes Gears** (series)

Napoli, Donna J.; **Treasury of Egyptian Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Monsters, and Mortals**

Northrup, Michael; **TombQuest** (series)

Paulsen, Gary; **Hatchet**

Salten, Fleix; **Bambi: A Life in the Woods**

Scieszka, Jon (ed.); **Guys Read** (various titles)

Selznick, Brian; **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

Soontornvat, Christina; **The Last Mapmaker**

Verne, Jules; **Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea**

Wood, Maryrose; **The Incurable Children of Ashton Place** (series)



Middle School Reading List

“You’re given the form, but you have to write the sonnet yourself.
What you say is completely up to you.”

~A Wrinkle in Time

Rising No Ceilings English 6 and 7

Requirements:

• No Ceilings English 6:

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

One book from this list.

One book of choice.

• No Ceilings English 7:

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Animal Farm

by George Orwell

**If you have already read The Outsiders and/or Animal Farm for No Ceilings class, choose replacement titles from this list.*

One book from this list.

One book of choice.

If students have a book they would prefer to read that is not on the list, they need to have permission from their English teacher.

Accountability:

Students should complete a Work Comprehension Assessment for each work they read. Work Comprehension Assessment forms are available in the Middle School section of the Kemper Library website. Students should also complete the outline

assignment provided. During the first weeks of school, there will be graded assignments on the required reading. On the first day of school, students should bring their Work Comprehension Assessment forms, their outline assignment, and their copies of the two required books for their grade.

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/summerreading/noceilings

Alcott, Louisa May; **Little Women**

Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March are four very different sisters who are growing into adulthood during the American Civil War. This classic novel was an instant success when it was published in 1868 and has remained a popular favorite ever since.

Alexander, Kwame; **The Crossover**

Twins Josh and Jordan are junior high basketball stars in this Newbery Medal winner. Written in verse, this well-crafted story is full of energy, with elements of hip-hop and jazz, and a portrait of a strong family bond.

Anderson, Laurie Halse; **Fever 1793**

This book is based on the actual epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia that killed over 5,000 people in three months. Anderson's novel is extremely well-researched and the female narrator and supporting characters bring history to life in a compelling and dramatic plot.

Boyne, John; **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas**

Bruno is nine years old and the son of a Nazi commandant when his family moves from Berlin to the country. He does not understand what is happening on the other side of the fence where everyone is wearing striped pajamas.

Crane, Stephen; **The Red Badge of Courage**

This small masterpiece was published in 1895 and features a young soldier caught up in an unnamed battle of the American Civil War.

Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan; **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes**

This is a collection of the famous detective's adventures which includes many of his most memorable cases.

Gibson, William; **The Miracle Worker**

This powerful play depicts the education of Helen Keller and her relationship with her extraordinary teacher, Anne Sullivan.

Gratz, Alan; **Refugee**

This skillfully crafted narrative presents three interconnected stories about resilience and survival. Josef is a Jewish boy who must leave Nazi-controlled Germany with his family. Isabel and her family must escape Cuba on a raft in 1994. Mahmoud flees the ongoing war in Aleppo, Syria with his family in 2015. This action-packed novel tackles timeless topics like courage, perseverance, and hope.

Hartfield, Claire; **A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919**

In 1919, a black youth was killed while swimming off the shore of Lake Michigan. This Coretta Scott King Award winner explores how this act ignited tensions that had been

Rising No Ceilings English 6 and 7 *(continued)*

building for decades and includes contemporary accounts, photos, and source notes.

Hickam, Homer; ***Rocket Boys: A Memoir***

This book beautifully captures a time when a band of teenage dreamers in a dying coal mining town placed their sights on the stars. Hickam grew up to be a NASA engineer.

Kelkar, Supriya; ***Ahimsa***

Anjali lives in India. It's 1942, and she has just learned that her mother is going to risk her life for the freedom movement. This New Visions Award winner was inspired by the author's grandmother's experience working with Gandhi.

L'Engle, Madeline; ***A Wrinkle in Time***

In this scientific fantasy, Meg and members of her family embark on a perilous quest through space to find their father.

London, Jack; ***The Call of the Wild***

Buck is a pampered house dog who is kidnapped and must learn to survive as a sled dog in the Yukon. Jack London was inspired to write this story after his own experiences during the Klondike Gold Rush.

Lourie, Peter; ***Jack London and the Klondike Gold Rush***

This is the story of Jack London's part in the Gold Rush of 1897, an adventure that would sow the seeds of his later books *White Fang* and *The Call of the Wild*.

Saeed, Aisha; ***Amal Unbound***

Amal is a young Pakistani girl forced into indentured servitude. She dreams of becoming a teacher but will need patience and persistence as she learns to navigate her new world.

Steinbeck, John; ***The Pearl***

The classic tale of how a priceless pearl brings greed, treachery, and loss to a poor Mexican pearl diver and his family.

Stevenson, Robert Lewis; ***The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde***

A London lawyer named Gabriel Utterson is investigating strange occurrences between his old friend Dr. Henry Jekyll and the evil Edward Hyde. This gothic thriller was originally published in 1886.

Stevenson, Robert Lewis; ***Treasure Island***

This much-loved classic by Robert Louis Stevenson was first published in a children's magazine in 1881 and 1882. Jim Hawkins, an innkeeper's son, and the pirate Long John Silver are the main characters in this adventure.

Stewart, Trenton Lee; ***The Mysterious Benedict Society***

Reynie Muldoon is an eleven-year-old orphan when he becomes one of four children chosen to use their special talents for a secret mission to uncover the mysterious Mr. Curtain's plans. This book includes dramatic plot twists and unusual characters, along with an underlying theme about the power of media messages.

Tolkien, J.R.R.; ***The Trilogy: The Fellowship of the Ring; The Two Towers; The Return of the King***

Both groundbreaking and timeless, Tolkien's epic recounts the Great War of the Ring in Middle Earth.

Twain, Mark; ***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer***

Tom Sawyer has many adventures in this novel about a young boy

growing up along the Mississippi River. This classic is set in the 1840's in a town based on Hannibal, Missouri, where Twain lived as a child.

Twain, Mark; ***The Prince and the Pauper***

It's 1547, and two boys in London meet by chance at the gates of a palace. The boys switch places, and young Prince Edward learns about the struggles of the commoners in England, while Tom learns what it's like to be a prince. Published in 1881, this was Mark Twain's first work of historical fiction.

Verne, Jules; ***Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea***

This classic novel introduces Captain Nemo and his fantastic submarine, the Nautilus. Written in 1870, it is considered one of the earliest science fiction books.

Wells, H.G.; ***The Time Machine***

Follow the Time Traveler as he travels more than 800,000 years into the future to discover what will happen to the human race.

Woodson, Jacqueline; ***Brown Girl Dreaming***

In this Newbery Honor book, Woodson creates a memoir in verse, describing what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960's and 1970's.

Woodson, Jacqueline; ***Harbor Me***

For an hour each week, six kids with learning differences have to meet for a chat with no adults present. As they begin to share their stories and slowly build friendship and trust, they begin to learn what it means to be a safe harbor for each other.

Rising Sixth Graders

Requirements:

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

If students have a book they would prefer to read that is not on the list, they need to have permission from their English teacher.

Accountability:

For *Wonder*, students should create a character list and a list of the five most important events for each part. (There are eight parts, each named for a character.) For the two books from this list and one book of choice, students should complete a Middle School Summer Reading Form. These forms are available in the Middle School section of the Kemper Library website and on the Summer Reading website listed below.

During the first weeks of school, there will be graded assignments on *Wonder*. On the first day of school, students should bring their three completed Middle School Summer Reading Forms; their events list and character list from *Wonder*; and their copy of *Wonder*.

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/rising-sixth

Alcott, Louisa May; **Little Women**

Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March are four very different sisters who are growing into adulthood during the American Civil War. This classic novel was an instant success when it was published in 1868 and has remained a popular favorite ever since.

Barnhill, Kelly; **The Girl Who Drank the Moon**

This Newbery Medal winner has magic, mystery, a quest, and lots of adventure. A witch, a swamp monster, and a tiny dragon provide humor in this story about what it means to grow up and to find where we belong.

Bruchac, Joseph; **One Real American: The Life of Ely S. Parker**

Ely S. Parker was a member of the Seneca (Iroquois) Nation and is one of the most unique but little-known figures in U.S. history. Award-winning children's book author and Native American scholar Joseph Bruchac provides an expertly researched look at this man who was caught between two worlds while achieving great success in both.

Carroll, Lewis; **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass**

In 1865 Charles Lutwidge Dodson (otherwise known as Lewis Carroll) created this fantasy story at the request of three young sisters. His story went on to become one of the most treasured of all time and includes such fantastical characters as the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter, and the Queen of Hearts.

Collins, Suzanne; **Gregor the Overlander** (the **Underland Chronicles** series)

Gregor expects a boring summer before he and his little sister fall through an air vent in their New York City apartment and wind up in an underground world where humans live alongside huge bats, cockroaches, and rats.

Connor, Leslie; **All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook**

Eleven-year-old Perry has always lived with his mother at the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility in Surprise, Nebraska. When a new district attorney discovers this, Perry must move into a foster home.

Creech, Sharon; **Walk Two Moons**

In this Newbery Medal winner, thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle travels from Ohio to Idaho with her grandparents. As they ride along, she entertains them with a story about a girl named Phoebe Winterbottom, a potential lunatic, and a disappearing mother. Salamanca's own story begins to unfold as she weaves the tale to entertain her grandparents.

DiCamillo, Kate; **Raymie Nightingale** (series)

It's the summer of 1975, and Raymie has decided it's all up to her: she must learn to twirl a baton and win the Miss Central Florida Tire Contest so her father will come home. This quirky novel is a 2016 National Book Award finalist.

Flanagan, John; **Ranger's Apprentice** (series)

The Rangers are a mysterious band who keep the law of the land and serve as spies for the Kingdom of Araluen. Fifteen-year-old Will was

Rising Sixth Graders *(continued)*

orphaned at a young age after the death of his father and becomes an Apprentice Ranger in the first book of this exciting series.

Gemeinhart, Dan; ***The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise***

Coyote and her dad have criss-crossed the United States for five years in an old school bus they have made their home. Along the way, they pick up a crew of misfit travelers and Coyote learns that going home can often be the hardest journey of all.

George, Jean Craighead; ***My Side of the Mountain***

This Newbery Honor book is about Sam Gribly, who tires of life in the city and runs away to the Catskill Mountains to forge a life of his own.

Jacques, Brian; ***Redwall*** (series)

These popular epic adventures are built around an amazing animal world filled with mice, moles, and badgers.

Kadohata, Cynthia; ***Weedflower***

When Pearl Harbor is attacked, the lives of a Japanese-American girl and her family are thrown into chaos.

Konigsburg, E.L.; ***From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler***

In this Newbery Medal winner, Claudia and her brother Jamie run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and find an adventure - and a mystery!

L'Engle, Madeline; ***A Wrinkle in Time***

In this scientific fantasy, Meg and members of her family embark on a perilous quest through space to find their father.

Lewis, C.S.; ***The Chronicles of Narnia*** (series)

Follow the adventures of four children as they travel repeatedly to the fantasy world of Narnia where everything is far more than it seems.

Lord, Cynthia; ***Rules***

Twelve-year-old Catherine is torn between love for her autistic brother, David, and impatience with the responsibilities he brings. This award-winning book is heartwarming and thought provoking.

Lourie, Peter; ***Jack London and the Klondike Gold Rush***

This is the story of Jack London's part in the Gold Rush of 1897, an adventure that would sow the seeds of his later books *White Fang* and *The Call of the Wild*.

Martin, Ann; ***Rain Reign***

Not everyone understands Rose Howard's obsession with homonyms. Rose is the narrator of this heartwarming story of a girl who sees life in black and white and the dog who becomes her beloved companion.

Montgomery, Lucy; ***Anne of Green Gables***

Anne Shirley is a scrawny, red-haired, eleven-year-old orphan who is adopted by an elderly couple and changes their lives forever.

O'Brien, Robert C.; ***Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh***

This Newbery Medal winner includes some unusual lab rats who learn more than the scientists bargain for. Mrs. Frisby is a widowed mouse with a sick child who must turn to these rats for assistance.

Oh, Ellen (editor); ***Flying Lessons and Other Stories***

Ten award-winning middle-grade authors contributed to this collection of short stories. This is a thought-provoking collection that celebrates the uniqueness in all of us.

Pearson, P. O'Connell; ***Fighting for the Forest: How FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps Helped Save America***

This book tells the story of the beginning of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933, with a particular focus on Shenandoah National Park in Virginia which was the CCC's first project. The Civilian Conservation Corps projects resulted in the building or improvement of hundreds of state and national parks, the restoration of 120 million acres of land, and the planting of over three billion trees.

Peck, Richard; ***A Long Way from Chicago***

Set in the 1930s, this book follows Joe and his sister, Mary Alice, during one of their annual visits to their grandmother's house. Grandma Dowdel is quite a character, and her outlandish exploits include many members of her colorful community.

Raskin, Ellen; ***The Westing Game***

In this Newbery Medal winner, sixteen individuals try to solve the puzzle of who killed Samuel Westing and who will win his millions by uncovering the murderer.

Rising Sixth Graders *(continued)*

Resau, Laura; ***The Lightning Queen***

In the remote mountains of Mexico in the 1950's, nothing exciting ever happens for Teo until Esme arrives. The friendship between these two will also include a rescued duck, a three-legged skunk, and a blind goat.

Rodkey, Geoff; ***We're Not from Here***

Imagine being forced to move to a new planet where you are the alien. The Zhuri on planet Choom don't like singing, jokes, or any kind of emotion, and they don't like humankind. Your family has one chance to change their minds so that humankind will have somewhere to live.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz; ***Esperanza Rising***

Ryan uses the experiences of her own Mexican grandmother in this novel set in 1930. Esperanza must leave her home and her social class as she immigrates to California and begins a new life.

Saeed, Aisha; ***Amal Unbound***

Amal is a young Pakistani girl forced into indentured servitude. She dreams of becoming a teacher but will need patience and persistence as she learns to navigate her new world.

Sheinkin, Steve; ***Born to Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America***

This book tells the stories of the trailblazing women pilots who flew in the 1929 Air Derby, the first women's air race across the United States.

Sidman, Joyce; ***The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science***

This Sibert Medal winner is packed with information and illustrations about Maria Merian, a thirteen-year-

old girl whose careful observations helped uncover the truth about metamorphosis. Maria was born in 1647, making her accomplishments even more extraordinary!

Steinbeck, John; ***The Red Pony***

This is the story of a young boy who learns about responsibility by caring for a pony of his own in rural California.

Stewart, Trenton Lee; ***The Mysterious Benedict Society***

Reynie Muldoon is an eleven-year-old orphan when he becomes one of four children chosen to use their special talents for a secret mission to uncover the mysterious Mr. Curtain's plans. This book includes dramatic plot twists and unusual characters, along with an underlying theme about the power of media messages.

Urban, Linda; ***A Crooked Kind of Perfect***

Zoe dreams of giving piano recitals at Carnegie Hall but must settle for the sounds of the Perfectone D-60 organ her father buys instead. A story filled with hope and humor – and a subtle message about appreciating your own quirkiness.

Voigt, Cynthia; ***Homecoming***

Voigt's depiction of the four Tillerman children and their journey after their mother abandons them is gripping and beautifully written.

Wilson, N.D.; ***100 Cupboards*** (series)

In this fantasy adventure, twelve-year-old Henry York awakens to find plaster falling, revealing doors of all shapes and sizes all over the wall of his bedroom. Finding out where these doors lead will change Henry's life.

Wolkenstein, M. Evan; ***Turtle Boy***

Will Levine is a boy who has spent his life living inside a shell. He meets RJ as part of his bar mitzvah community service project and hears about RJ's bucket list. He realizes that even though it is way outside his comfort zone, he needs to tackle the bucket list on his new friend's behalf before it is too late. This is a Sydney Taylor Book Award winner.

Woodson, Jacqueline; ***Brown Girl Dreaming***

In this Newbery Honor book, Woodson creates a memoir in verse, describing what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960's and 1970's.

Yang, Kelly; ***Front Desk*** (series)

Mia Tang and her parents immigrate to the United States from China and find themselves managing a motel for an unkind owner. Ten-year-old Mia's experiences as she takes over the front desk are based on Kelly Yang's own experiences as an immigrant in the 1980's and 1990's.

Spanish Resources:

Cynthia Downs; ***Skills for Success: Spanish Workbook, Middle/High School***

Rose Thomas; ***The 100+ Series: Spanish Workbook, Middle/High School***

Rising Seventh Graders

Requirements:

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

If students have a book they would prefer to read that is not on the list, they need to have permission from their English teacher.

Accountability:

For *The Outsiders*, students should create a character list and a list of the five most important events for each chapter. For the two books from this list and one book of choice, students should complete a Middle School Summer Reading Form. These forms are available in the Middle School section of the Kemper Library website and on the Summer Reading website listed below.

During the first weeks of school, there will be graded assignments on *The Outsiders*. On the first day of school, students should bring their three completed Middle School Summer Reading Forms; their events list and character list from *The Outsiders*; and their copy of *The Outsiders*.

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingseventh

Alexander, Kwame; ***The Crossover***

Twins Josh and Jordan are junior high basketball stars in this Newbery Medal winner. Written in verse, this well-crafted story is full of energy, with elements of hip-hop and jazz, and a portrait of a strong family bond.

Anderson, Laurie Halse; ***Fever 1793***

This book is based on the actual epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia that killed over 5,000 people in three months. Anderson's novel is extremely well-researched and the female narrator and supporting characters bring history to life in a compelling and dramatic plot.

Barnhill, Kelly; ***The Ogress and the Orphans***

This captivating fantasy's multiple plotlines are expertly woven to incorporate thought-provoking aspects of what it means to belong to a community. Sometimes all is not as it seems. . . .

Bascomb, Neal; ***Faster: How a Jewish Driver, an American Heiress, and a Legendary Car Beat Hitler's Best***

In this account of the 1930's Grand Prix races, Bascomb expertly recreates Europe's motorsport subculture against the backdrop of the rise of fascism led by Hitler and Nazi Germany. This book details the effort to challenge Hitler's dominance at the Grand Prix.

Blankman, Anne; ***The Blackbird Girls***

A reactor at the Chernobyl power plant has exploded. Valentina and Oksana have always been enemies but now find themselves on a train bound for Leningrad to stay with Valentina's grandmother. The story

is told in alternating perspectives among three girls: Valentina and Oksana in 1986, and Rifka in 1941. This is a Sydney Taylor Book Award winner and a National Jewish Book Award winner.

Burg, Ann E.; ***Unbound***

Grace and her family must escape into the Great Dismal Swamp after she speaks up for what is right. This award winner is written in verse and is based on actual narratives of the formerly enslaved collected by the Federal Writers' Project.

Calejo, Ryan; ***Charlie Hernandez and the League of Shadows***

The chase is on after Charlie Hernández wakes up mysteriously sporting horns and feathers which leads him to reexamine his abuela's Latin American "tall tales" in order to solve an ancient mystery that might be the reason for his parents' disappearance.

Christie, Agatha; ***Poirot Investigates***

This delightful collection of detective stories established the brilliant Belgian sleuth's reputation in classic detective fiction.

Connor, Leslie; ***The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle***

Mason's struggles with reading and writing are compounded by the grief he feels after his best friend dies in an accident. This National Book Award finalist includes a mystery in which Mason is the main suspect.

Crane, Stephen; ***The Red Badge of Courage***

This small masterpiece was published in 1895 and features a young soldier caught up in an unnamed battle of the American Civil War.

Rising Seventh Graders *(continued)*

Draper, Sharon; ***Out of My Mind***

Melody is the smartest kid in her whole school, but no one knows it because Melody can't talk, walk, or write. Get ready to meet a girl whose voice you'll never forget.

Gibson, William; ***The Miracle Worker***

This powerful play depicts the education of Helen Keller and her relationship with her extraordinary teacher, Anne Sullivan.

Gratz, Alan; ***Refugee***

This skillfully crafted narrative presents three interconnected stories about resilience and survival. Josef is a Jewish boy who must leave Nazi-controlled Germany with his family. Isabel and her family must escape Cuba on a raft in 1994. Mahmoud flees the ongoing war in Aleppo, Syria with his family in 2015. This action-packed novel tackles timeless topics like courage, perseverance, and hope.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson; ***Greystone Secrets (series)***

This clever adventure series is filled with mystery and plot twists related to the three Greystone children. Chess, Emma, and Finn see reports of three kidnapped children who share their same first and middle names and have identical birthdays. Who, exactly, are these other children?

Halpern, Jake; ***Dormia***

After nurturing a strange plant in his sleep, Alphonso Perplexon finds out that he is from a hidden land called Dormia, whose inhabitants have perfected wakeful sleeping. Alphonso must travel to Dormia to return the plant and save the city.

Hartfield, Claire; ***A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919***

In 1919, a black youth was killed while swimming off the shore of Lake Michigan. This Coretta Scott King Award winner explores how this act ignited tensions that had been building for decades and includes contemporary accounts, photos, and source notes.

Hendrix, John; ***The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler***

This graphic novel is a captivating and suspenseful retelling of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's decision to become part of a plot to assassinate Hitler. The colors used in this book are an important part of the depiction of this complex time in history.

Justor, Norton; ***The Phantom Tollbooth***

Milo is bored by everything until a mysterious tollbooth appears in his bedroom. Giving it a try takes him on an adventure that is full of twists and turns with a visit to the Island of Conclusions (you get there by jumping) and a quest to rescue Rhyme and Reason.

Kadahota, Cynthia; ***Kira-Kira***

Set in the 1950s, this 2005 Newbery Medal winner tells the story of two Japanese-American sisters whose family moves from Iowa to Georgia. Narrated by younger sister, Katie, this poignant novel describes the trials of racial discrimination, economic hardship, and terminal illness.

Kelkar, Supriya; ***Ahimsa***

Anjali lives in India. It's 1942, and she has just learned that her mother is going to risk her life for the freedom

movement. This New Visions Award winner was inspired by the author's grandmother's experience working with Gandhi.

Lewis, C.S.; ***Out of the Silent Planet***

In this first volume of his space trilogy, Lewis creates an ethical struggle between man and nature within the Universe.

Lowry, Lois; ***Number the Stars***

This 1990 Newbery Medal winner is based on the true story of the evacuation of Jews from Nazi-held Denmark during World War II.

Marshall, Joseph, III; ***In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse***

Jimmy McClean is a part white and part Native American boy who embarks on a journey with his grandfather to learn more about his Lakota heritage while visiting places significant in the life of Crazy Horse, the 19th century Lakota leader and warrior.

Oppel, Kenneth; ***Airborn***

Matt Cruse is a cabin boy on the Aurora, a huge airship. This is a swashbuckling adventure, complete with pirates, and it is a Printz honor winner.

Reef, Catherine; ***Florence Nightingale: The Courageous Life of the Legendary Nurse***

This biography explores the life of legendary nurse Florence Nightingale, including her long fight to become a nurse. Nightingale's determination helped to vastly improve conditions for patients, as well as perspectives on nursing in general.

Rising Seventh Graders *(continued)*

Sheinkin, Steve; ***Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – The World’s Most Dangerous Weapon***

This Newbery Honor book and winner of the Robert F. Sibert Medal begins in 1936 when a scientist in a German laboratory discovers how to split a uranium atom in two. That discovery sparked a race that would span three continents and include scientists, spies, and some of the world’s most ruthless dictators. This is the story of the atomic bomb.

Sheinkin, Steve; ***Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown***

This Newbery Honor Award and Sibert Honor Award book is a follow up to Sheinkin’s book, *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon*. It takes readers into the Cold War years and the battle for dominance between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Shusterman, Neal; ***The Schwa Was Here***

When Antsy and his friends meet Calvin Schwa, they are impressed by his ability to appear and disappear before their very eyes. This funny book is filled with charismatic characters and intriguing issues.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg; ***Counting by 7’s***

This is the moving story of Willow Chance, a twelve year old genius who finds it hard to connect with others. Her world is tragically changed, but Willow’s endearing story is one of endurance and the ties that unite a family.

Smith, Sherri L.; ***Flygirl***

Ida Mae Jones is a young black woman in 1940’s Louisiana, and all she wants to do is fly planes like her father did. This book incorporates extensive historical research about the WASP’s – Women Airforce Service Pilots – during World War II.

Steinbeck, John; ***The Pearl***

The classic tale of how a priceless pearl brings greed, treachery, and loss to a poor Mexican pearl diver and his family.

Tolkien, J.R.R.; ***The Trilogy: The Fellowship of the Ring; The Two Towers; The Return of the King***

Both groundbreaking and timeless, Tolkien’s epic recounts the Great War of the Ring in Middle Earth.

Twain, Mark; ***The Prince and the Pauper***

It’s 1547, and two boys in London meet by chance at the gates of a palace. The boys switch places, and young Prince Edward learns about the struggles of the commoners in England, while Tom learns what it’s like to be a prince. Published in 1881, this was Mark Twain’s first work of historical fiction.

Vanderpool, Clare; ***Moon Over Manifest***

This 2010 Newbery winner follows the story of Abilene Tucker, a girl who is sent to spend the summer in Manifest, Kansas. While Abilene searches for details about her absent father, she also finds friendship, the respect of other townspeople, and answers to some long-held secrets.

Verne, Jules; ***A Journey to the Center of the Earth***

In this classic, three men discover many unusual things on their trip to the Earth’s mysterious core.

Voigt, Cynthia; ***Dacey’s Song***

This Newbery Medal winner continues the story of the Tillerman family as Dacey and her siblings adjust to life on their grandmother’s farm.

Walker, Sally; ***Deadly Aim: The Civil War Story of Michigan’s Anishinaabe Sharpshooters***

More than 20,000 American Indians served in the Civil War, but their stories have seldom appeared in history books. This book explores the remarkable service of Michigan’s Anishinaabe sharpshooters and is filled with photographs, diagrams, and maps.

Wells, H.G.; ***The Time Machine***

Follow the Time Traveler as he travels more than 800,000 years into the future to discover what will happen to the human race.

Zindel, Paul; ***The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds***

This Pulitzer Prize-winning play centers on Tillie Hunsdorfer and her family. Tillie studies the growth of flowers for a science project in an effort to escape the bitterness of her family and surroundings.

Rising Eighth Graders

Requirements:

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Two books from this list.

One book of choice.

If students have a book they would prefer to read that is not on the list, they need to have permission from their English teacher.

Accountability:

For *Of Mice and Men*, students should create a character list and a list of the five most important events by chapter. For the two books from this list and one book of choice, students should complete a Middle School Summer Reading Form. These forms are available in the Middle School section of the Kemper Library website and on the Summer Reading website listed below.

During the first weeks of school, there will be graded assignments on *Of Mice and Men*. On the first day of school, students should bring their three completed Middle School Summer Reading Forms; their events list and character list from *Of Mice and Men*; and their copy of *Of Mice and Men*.

Summer Reading Website:

northcross.libguides.com/
summerreading/risingeighth

Alexander, Kwame; ***Booked***

Kwame Alexander continues to show his love of words in this soccer-themed novel written in verse. Nick and his best friend, Coby, have big plans for winning the Dr. Pepper Dallas Cup.

Alexander, Kwame; ***Rebound***

Rebound is a prequel to *Crossover*, Alexander's first novel in verse. Readers get a glimpse of Chuck Bell's childhood and how he came to be the basketball star his sons Josh and Jordan look up to.

Anderson, Laurie Halse; ***Chains***

This well-researched book describes the lives of a young slave named Isabel and her sister, Ruth, who are sold to wealthy loyalists in New York City in the spring of 1776. *Chains* is a winner of the Scott O'Dell Award for historical fiction and a National Book Award finalist.

Asimov, Isaac; ***The Robots of Dawn***

Written in 1983, this science fiction novel sends New York detective Elijah Bailey to investigate a puzzling case of roboticide.

Bascomb, Neal; ***The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi***

Based on the adult bestseller *Hunting Eichmann*, this is the amazing story of the capture of Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann by an elite team of Israeli spies.

Bergreen, Laurence; ***Seven Voyages: How China's Treasure Fleet Conquered the Sea***

This fascinating book tells the story of Zheng He, the Chinese explorer

who commanded over 1500 ships over the course of 30 years. The seven epic voyages he led during the 1400's helped to establish China as a global power.

Bradbury, Ray; ***Fahrenheit 451***

This internationally acclaimed novel is set in a dystopian future where firemen start fires rather than put them out. Guy Montag is a fireman whose job is to burn books until he begins to question everything he has known and finds himself running for his life.

Bruchac, Joseph ***March Toward the Thunder***

In 1864, Louis Nolette is a fifteen-year-old Abenaki Indian who decides to enlist after a recruiter convinces him that it's worth the bounty to join an Irish brigade marching from New York to Virginia.

Chabon, Michael; ***Summerland***

Pulitzer Prize winner Chabon blends several mythologies to create a vivid fantasy where baseball is king.

Cisneros, Sandra; ***The House on Mango Street***

Esperanza Cordero is a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago. Her story is told through a series of vignettes with distinctive rhythm and imagery.

Dickens, Charles; ***Great Expectations***

In what may be Dickens' best novel, orphaned Pip is apprenticed to the dirty work of the forge but dares to dream of becoming a gentleman.

Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan; ***The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes***

This is a collection of the famous detective's adventures which includes

Rising Eighth Graders *(continued)*

many of his most memorable cases.

Flanagan, John; **Brotherband Chronicles** (series)

There is a new cast of characters for the world of Skandians and Araluens from the Ranger's Apprentice series. Adventure, friendship, loyalty, and courage are all part of this series as well.

Hale, Shannon; **The Goose Girl**

This is a magical retelling of the Grimm's fairy tale about a girl born with the ability to speak to animals. She is a princess, but she must become a goose girl before she can become queen.

Hickam, Homer; **Rocket Boys: A Memoir**

This book beautifully captures a time when a band of teenage dreamers in a dying coal mining town placed their sights on the stars. Hickam grew up to be a NASA engineer.

Iturbe, Antonio; **The Librarian of Auschwitz**

This incredible story is based on the experiences of Auschwitz prisoner Dita Kraus, who risked her life to keep a handful of books safe for their small school at the camp. Dita was only fourteen years old, and possession of a book was an offense punishable by death.

Khorram, Adib; **Darius the Great is Not Okay**

Darius Kellner is a boy with a Persian mother and an American father who is taking his first trip to Iran. This award winner delves into the ways that Darius does not feel like he will ever be enough in either place.

Kidd, Sue Monk; **The Secret Life of Bees**

Set in South Carolina in 1964, this book tells the story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped by the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed.

Klune, T.J.; **The House in the Cerulean Sea**

Linus Baker is a case worker for a government organization in charge of managing orphaned children who are magical beings. He is given an undercover assignment to investigate six dangerous children at the Marsyas Island Orphanage.

Kupferschmidt, Kai; **Blue: In Search of Nature's Rarest Color**

This comprehensive history of the color blue is written by a science journalist and delves into art, chemistry, biology, geology, history, and literature. The diagrams and illustrations included add to the fascinating story of the science and nature of blue.

Maraniss, Andrew; **Games of Deception: The True Story of the First U.S. Olympic Basketball Team at the 1936 Olympics in Hitler's Germany**

This gripping account of the first U.S. Olympic basketball team includes information about the invention of basketball in 1891 up to the sport's Olympic debut in Hitler's Germany in 1936. Extensive efforts were made in Germany to prevent visitors from seeing any signs of trouble in Berlin as events leading up to World War II unfolded.

Mazzeo, Tilar J.; **Irena's Children: A True Story of Courage** (young reader's edition adapted by Mary Cronk Farrell)

Irena Sendler took incredible risks to save 2,500 Jewish children in Nazi-occupied Poland during World War II. Her story only became widely known after several high school students in Kansas began to research her in 1999.

Mulligan, Andy; **Trash**

Three young teenagers, trash-pickers living in the city dump of an unnamed third-world country, discover a mysterious bag one morning, triggering a chain of events that will change their lives forever.

Nayeri, Daniel; **Everything Sad is Untrue**

In this autobiographical novel, Khosrou (whom everyone calls Daniel) begins with a story about his family's history and how they became refugees as he stands in front of his fifth grade class in Oklahoma. The author weaves Persian folklore into this book about his family's history in Iran that stretches back years and decades and centuries, stories of memories and memories of stories. This is a Printz Award winner.

Orwell, George; **Animal Farm**

This famous political fable is based on the events of Russia's Bolshevik revolution.

Park, Linda Sue; **A Long Walk to Water**

This book describes the difficult journeys of Salva, in 1985, and Nya, in 2008. Based on a true story, the amazing intersection of these two people's lives reminds us of all we take for granted.

Rising Eighth Graders *(continued)*

Pullman, Philip; ***The Golden Compass***

Pullman creates a world parallel to our own in which Lyra Belacqua embarks on an adventure pitting good against evil.

Redding, Anna Crowley; ***Google It: A History of Google***

Award-winning investigative reporter Anna Crowley Redding shares the story of a thesis project with a deceptively simple goal of "organizing the world's information." This book includes many graphics, photos, and interesting facts about the creation of Google.

Reef, Catherine; ***The Bronte Sisters: The Brief Lives of Charlotte, Emily, and Anne***

This young adult biography explores the lives of these literary sisters and includes more than sixty archival images.

Reef, Catherine; ***Mary Shelley: The Strange True Tale of Frankenstein's Creator***

Mary Shelley began writing *Frankenstein* when she was eighteen years old. This biography details her extraordinary life both before and after the publication of her iconic masterpiece.

Shakespeare, William; ***As You Like It***

All ends well in Shakespeare's comedy about the banished princess who falls in love at first sight with a poor but brave young man.

Sheinkin, Steve; ***Port Chicago 50***

In 1944, a massive munitions explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors. What many people don't know is that

most of the men assigned to these dangerous tasks were African American, and when they refused to continue loading the dangerous explosives until safety measures were implemented, they were charged with mutiny.

Sheinkin, Steve; ***Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team***

Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner met in 1901 at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, where they forged one of the winningest teams in football history; one that came to be known as "the team that invented football." This is also the story of a school designed to erase Native American culture.

Smith, Betty; ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn***

In this profoundly moving novel, young Francie Nolan, an avid reader and penny-candy connoisseur, struggles against all odds to survive and thrive.

Watson, Renee; ***Piecing Me Together***

Jade is a high school student from a rough neighborhood. She is also a talented collage artist, attends a private school on scholarship, and grows tired of being treated as someone who needs to be fixed. This powerful story is a 2018 Newbery Honor Book and Coretta Scott King Author Award winner.

Wells, H.G.; ***The War of the Worlds***

First published in 1898, this science fiction novel details twelve days in which invaders from Mars attack the planet Earth.

Wilder, Thornton; ***Our Town***

This Pulitzer Prize winning three-act play portrays the drama of life - and death - in the small village of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire

Wolff, Virginia Euwer; ***Make Lemonade***

This novel in verse tells the story of LaVaughn, who at fifteen already knows that life is hard and that getting ahead takes a strong mind—and an even stronger will.



A. Pandey '26

Upper School Reading List

“A book is the only place in which you can examine a fragile thought without breaking it, or explore an explosive idea without fear it will go off in your face.”

~Edward P. Morgan

Upper School Reading List

Requirements:

1. Book selected for Upper School:
They Called Us Enemy
by George Takei
2. The required book for your English Class:
 - World Literature (9):
The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak
 - American Literature (10):
The Ox-Bow Incident by Walter Van Tilburg Clark
 - British Literature:
1984 by George Orwell
 - Thematic Literature:
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
 - AP English Language:
Catch-22 by Joseph Heller
 - AP English Literature:
The House of the Seven Gables
by Nathaniel Hawthorne
3. One book from the following list.
4. One book of choice.
(This can be the required book for Global Studies, STEM, or Fine Arts.)
 - **Global Studies:** Choose One:
 - ***Sacred Nature: Restoring Our Ancient Bond with the Natural World***
by Karen Armstrong
 - ***The World that Trade Created: Society, Culture, and the World Economy, 1400 to the Present*** by Kenneth Pomeranz and Steven Topik
 - ***Ten Tomatoes that Changed the World: A History***
by William Alexander
 - ***The Best We Could Do: An Illustrated Memoir*** by Thi Bui
 - ***In Other Words*** by Jhumpa Lahiri
 - **STEM:** ***Death from the Skies!: The Science Behind the End of the World*** by Philip Plait Ph.D.
 - **Fine Arts:** Choose One:
 - Select an arts-related book of your choice. (Get approval from the Fine Arts Department in advance.)
 - Do an artistic response for a book of your choice (that may or may not be art related). The response can be in any arts realm (get idea approved by the Fine Arts Department in advance).

*Please see the Summer Reading website for more information about assignments related to the Global Studies, STEM, and Fine Arts readings.

Accountability:

Students will be assessed on summer reading assignments as follows:

Upper School Book: Students will take a test on this book during the first week of school.

Book Required for English Class: Students will take a test on this book during the first few days of school. In most cases, students will have other assignments, such as essays and journal entries, based on this book.

One book from the Upper School Reading List and one book of the student's choosing. Each English teacher will hold students accountable for having read books in these two categories. Teachers may choose book reviews, essays, brief oral presentations, or other methods of assessment. It is important that the students read the required books thoroughly and completely before the beginning of the school year. Late enrollees need to contact the director of the Upper School for advice regarding their summer reading.

Summer Reading Website: <https://northcross.libguides.com/summerreading/upperschool>

Upper School Reading List *(continued)*

Classics

Austen, Jane; ***Emma***

Austen described Emma Woodhouse as “a heroine whom no one but myself will much like;” but the author endowed Emma with enough charm to see her through her most egregious behavior, and the ability to learn from her mistakes.

Defoe, Daniel; ***Robinson Crusoe***

Considered by some critics to be the “first” novel, it is a book many people know but have not necessarily read. Crusoe, the son of a middle-class English family, is shipwrecked and lives on an island for 24 years before being rescued.

Fielding, Henry; ***Tom Jones***

Our hero, the charming foundling, Tom Jones, is one of the most endearing characters in fiction, and this novel follows his rollicking journey to maturity.

Forster, E.M.; ***A Passage to India***

A young native doctor is falsely charged with attacking an English woman in this novel set in colonial India.

Hemingway, Ernest;
For Whom the Bell Tolls

In this story set in the Spanish Civil War, Hemingway’s craft is so fine that the story becomes a historical document.

James, Henry; ***Daisy Miller***

Daisy, a delightfully uninhibited young American, visits the European community and causes social scandals with her high spirits and disregard of formal conventions.

Wharton, Edith; ***Summer***

The willful heroine wants a grander life than her small town can offer but finds herself in a difficult dilemma as a result of her choices. One of the first American novels to deal frankly with a young woman’s sexual awakening, it was a publishing sensation when it appeared in 1917.

Woolf, Virginia; ***Mrs. Dalloway***

This novel details one day in the life of Clarissa Dalloway as she moves, rather disinterestedly, from glimpsing a “somebody” in a car, to her party where she ignores a “nobody.” At the time this novel was published (1925), its narrative style was still considered experimental.

Modern Classics

Capote, Truman;
Breakfast at Tiffany’s

Holly Golightly is one of the most charming heroines in all of modern American literature. Immortalized in a film starring Audrey Hepburn, this novel captures the restless, slightly madcap era of 1940s New York.

Cunningham, Michael; ***The Hours***

This Pulitzer Prize winning novel was made into an Oscar-winning movie. The story concerns three generations of women affected by a Virginia Woolf novel.

Haley, Alex; ***Roots***

The author portrays the struggles of seven generations who trace their roots back to West Africa. (Mature Themes)

Kerouac, Jack; ***On the Road***

Almost a cultural metaphor, this is the record of a bohemian journey cross country. (Mature Themes)

O’Connor, Flannery;
The Violent Bear it Away

This landmark in American literature was first published in 1955 and features the orphaned Francis Marion Tidewater, his cousins, and the schoolteacher Rayber, who defy the prophecy of Tidewater’s dead uncle.

Rand, Ayn; ***The Fountainhead***

One man struggles to maintain his integrity as an architect despite the social, economic, and legal consequences.

Steinbeck, John;
The Grapes of Wrath

In the dustbowl of Oklahoma a family struggles to survive the harshness of the landscape and their own poverty. Steinbeck won the Pulitzer Prize for this book in 1940.

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Adams, Douglas; ***The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy***

A clever, comic, sci-fi classic about a clueless earthling who explores the wonders of the universe, permanently shattering his preconceived ideas.

Adeyemi, Tomi; ***Children of Blood and Bone***; ***Children of Virtue and Vengeance***

This series is influenced by Adeyemi’s West African heritage and takes on themes of injustice and the struggle for change as twins Zelig and Tzain struggle to bring magic back to Orisha.

Upper School Reading List *(continued)*

Atwood, Margaret; ***The Handmaid's Tale***

Set in the future in what used to be the United States, this dystopian tale centers around a woman known as Offred. She is a handmaid, one of the few functions available to women in this planned utopia gone wrong. This award winner has never been out of print since its publication in 1985.

Bowen, Natasha; ***Skin of the Sea***

In this inspired take on Han Christian Andersen's 'The Little Mermaid,' Simi has been remade as a mermaid and tasked with recovering the souls of those who die at sea. This book blends West African mythology and the dark history of the slave trade to contribute to an immersive adventure after Simi chooses to save the life of a boy thrown overboard.

Butler, Octavia; ***Parable of the Sower***

In this acclaimed dystopian novel, Butler intertwines issues like climate change and social inequality to provide a terrifying vision of the consequences of willful greed and racism. This novel follows Lauren Olamina, a young woman who can feel the pain of clothes.

Card, Orson Scott; ***Ender's Game***

A frighteningly brilliant boy is recruited to a military academy whose emergency mission is to find a way to destroy an insectoid alien race.

Crichton, Michael;
Eaters of the Dead

In the year 922, a devout Muslim finds himself in a party of Viking raiders embroiled in a fight against supernatural mist monsters. This is an entertaining and scholarly work about cultural differences.

Dick, Philip K.; ***The Man in the High Castle***

It is 1962, fifteen years after the end of World War II, and Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany rule over the former United States. This harrowing alternative history won the Hugo Award for Best Novel in 1963.

Haldeman, Joe; ***The Forever War***

Private William Mandella is an elite soldier sent through space and time to fight in the thousand-year war between Earth and the Taurans. While Mandella's tour of duty lasts only a few years for him, several hundred years pass on Earth. This award winning science fiction novel was published in 1976.

Ireland, Justina; ***Dread Nation***

This historical thriller is set in an alternate universe in which the Civil War ended when the dead at Gettysburg began to rise and consume soldiers from both sides. Jane, like all children of color, has been trained in combat to eliminate the zombies. When powerful families in Baltimore begin to disappear mysteriously, Jane is caught up in the conspiracy surrounding the disappearance. This fast-paced story examines topics of racial discrimination and inequality.

Shelley, Mary; ***Frankenstein***

In the summer of 1816, Lord Byron suggested a story-writing contest to his neighbors. Mary Shelley took up that challenge, writing about Victor Frankenstein's terrible creation and thus creating one of the most famous characters in science fiction.

Shusterman, Neal; ***Scythe***

In this Printz Honor-winning book, we visit a world with no hunger, no disease, and no death. Scythes are now the only ones who can end life. Citra and Rowan are apprentice scythes who are pitted against one another in a fight for their lives.

Magical Realism

Kafka, Franz; ***The Trial***

In this moral parable, a bank clerk awakens one morning to find he has been arrested. He knows he has not committed a crime; and, although he is not imprisoned, he must regularly appear in court to argue for his innocence.

Kundera, Milan; ***The Unbearable Lightness of Being***

Tomas, the protagonist of this fine Czechoslovakian novel, is a successful surgeon until the Russians invade Prague. Tomas is forced to give up his practice and become a window washer.

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia;
One Hundred Years of Solitude

Through the history of a Latin American family, this novel recounts the rise and fall of the mythical town of Macondo.

Maugham, W. Somerset;
The Razor's Edge

Largely set in France, this novel tells the story of the spiritual odyssey of Larry Darrell, a young American in search of God and the Infinite.

Morrison, Toni; ***The Bluest Eye***

Pecola Breedlove is a young African American girl who believes that blond hair and blue eyes will help

Upper School Reading List *(continued)*

her to fit in. Morrison's powerful first novel, published in 1970, explores issues of race, class, and gender. (Mature Themes)

Mysteries/Detective Fiction

Christie, Agatha;

The Mysterious Affair at Styles

Christie's first mystery, published in 1920, introduces Hercule Poirot. The story centers on Mrs. Inglethorpe, a wealthy, elderly woman who is found dead from arsenic poisoning as the mystery begins.

Hillerman, Tony; ***The Blessing Way***

This is the first novel in the Joe Leaphorn/Jim Chee Navajo Tribal Police series. A murder, some seemingly supernatural occurrences, and an anthropologist friend of Leaphorns set the stage for this story set in the southwest United States.

Le Carre, John; ***A Perfect Spy***

In this superb spy novel, the hero is a middle-aged senior official in British Intelligence who decides to write an autobiography for his son.

Sayers, Dorothy; ***Whose Body?***

This is Sayers' first mystery of many, published in 1923. In it, we are introduced to Lord Peter Wimsey, an eccentric amateur detective; Mr. Parker, employed by Scotland Yard; and Lord Peter's butler, valet, and rescuer, Bunter.

Historical Fiction

Anderson, M. T.; ***Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad***

This award-winning novel tells

the story of Adolf Hitler's siege of Leningrad beginning in 1941. In the midst of bombardment and starvation, and the deaths of more than a million citizens, composer Dmitri Shostakovich wrote the *Leningrad Symphony*. It went on to occupy a surprising place in the eventual Allied victory.

Buck, Pearl; ***The Good Earth***

Though almost 80 years have passed since this remarkable novel won the Pulitzer Prize, it has retained its popularity and become one of the great modern classics. Buck presents a graphic view of a China when the last emperor reigned and the vast political and social upheavals of the twentieth century were but distant rumblings for the ordinary people.

Hugo, Victor; ***Les Misérables***

A beautifully written novel concerning the implications of stealing a loaf of bread in an unjust world.

McCullers, Carson;

The Heart is a Lonely Hunter

When this novel was published in 1940, Carson McCullers became a literary sensation. At its center is the deaf-mute John Singer who becomes the confidant for various misfits in a Georgia mill town during the 1930s.

Paton, Allan;

Cry, the Beloved Country

The troubled and changing South Africa of the 1940s is the setting for this story about the Zulu pastor Stephen Kumalo and his son Absalom.

Sepetys, Ruta; ***I Must Betray You***

Sepetys is known for the impressive research undertaken for her books. Here, she dives into the history of Romania in 1989 during the

dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu. Seventeen-year-old Christian Florescu dreams of becoming a writer but is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer.

Solzhenitsyn, Alexander; ***One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich***

A prisoner in a labor camp in Siberia employs memory and ritual in his attempt to survive the hardships.

Tan, Amy;

The Bone Setter's Daughter

The central portion of this novel takes place in China in the remote, mountainous region where anthropologists discovered Peking Man in the 1920s. LuLing, the protagonist's mother, has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and is determined to preserve the facts about her family history for her daughter.

Contemporary Realistic Fiction/Modern Fiction

Acevedo, Elizabeth;

The Poet X

Winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, the Printz Award, and the Pura Belpre Award, this novel in verse is about Xiomara Batista, who feels unheard in her Harlem neighborhood. When she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she can't stop thinking about performing her poems.

Arnold, David; ***Mosquitoland***

After learning that her mom is sick, Mim Malone leaves her dad and her new stepmom in Mississippi to make her way to her mom in Cleveland. Her journey takes several unexpected turns along the way as Mim confronts her own demons. Arnold has won

Upper School Reading List *(continued)*

the Southern Book Prize and this book was named an ABA Indies Debut Authors and New Voices title and a Kirkus Unforgettable Debut for 2015.

Boulley, Angeline;

The Firekeeper's Daughter (*Mature Themes*)

This groundbreaking thriller is written by a Native author about a Native teen who must help to root out the corruption in her community. Daunis Fontaine's mixed heritage has always made her feel like an outsider, but as she begins to figure out the mystery of what is happening around her, she also begins to figure out what it means to be a strong Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibwe woman).

Dos Passos, John;

Manhattan Transfer

Considered by many to be John Dos Passos's greatest work, this book is an expressionistic picture of New York in the 1920s that reveals the lives of wealthy power brokers and struggling immigrants alike.

Foer, Jonathan Safran; ***Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close***

Oskar Schell is a nine-year-old amateur inventor, jewelry designer, astrophysicist, tambourine player and pacifist. When his father dies in the World Trade Center collapse, Oskar shifts his boundless energy to a quest for answers. (Challenging)

Krosoczka, Jarrett J.; ***Hey, Kiddo***

This National Book Award finalist is a powerful memoir about Krosoczka's experiences growing up with a drug-addicted mother, a missing father, and his grandparents who raised him. Krosoczka chose a graphic novel format for his book that is honest, timely, and moving.

Saenz, Benjamin Alire; ***Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe***

Aristotle's brother is in prison. Dante is a know-it-all. When they meet at the pool, they seem to have nothing in common, but it is through the friendship that develops as they spend time together that they will learn the most important truths about themselves. This is a Printz Honor book, Stonewall Book Award winner, Pura Belpre Award Winner, and Lambda Literary Award Winner.

Shusterman, Neal; ***Challenger Deep***

Caden Bosch is fifteen years old, a gifted artist, and struggling with mental illness. This National Book Award winner has also won numerous other awards. Shusterman's own personal experience with his son's mental illness informed the writing of this book.

Thomas, Angie; ***The Hate You Give***

Starr Carter lives in a gang-ravaged area but attends a predominantly white prep school in another part of town. Starr is with her friend Khalil when he is shot, and she must decide how to navigate the two parts of her life as she deals with his death.

Sports

Kennedy, Kostya; ***56: Joe DiMaggio and the Last Magic Number in Sports***

Seventy baseball seasons ago, on a May afternoon at Yankee Stadium, Joe DiMaggio lined a hard single to left field. Starting that day, the vaunted Yankee centerfielder kept on hitting—at least one hit in game after game. Kennedy tells the remarkable story of how the streak found its way into countless lives

across the country.

Malamud, Bernard; ***The Natural***

Malamud details the career of an upcoming star in the world of baseball and, at the same time, sustains an allegory that does not get in the way of the story.

MacLean, Norman;

A River Runs Through It

Fly fishing becomes a metaphor of life for two brothers in this novel set in the American West.

Swaby, Rachel and Kit Fox; ***Mighty Moe: The True Story of a Thirteen-Year-Old Women's Running Revolutionary***

This is the previously untold true story of runner Maureen Wilton, who broke the women's world marathon record in Toronto in 1967. This was an era when women were discouraged from participating in running, so Moe's achievement was greeted with disapproval and accusations of cheating.

Short Stories

Butler, Robert Olen; ***A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain***

This is a collection of stories about the aftermath of the Vietnam War and its impact on the Vietnamese. This book won the Pulitzer Prize in 1993.

Carver, Raymond; ***Cathedral***

If you know the famous strangely minimalistic paintings of Edward Hopper, you know some of the characters who live in Carver's space. A dozen stories that overflow with "clear, hard language so right that we shiver from the knowledge we gain from it." – Thomas Williams, Chicago Tribune Book World

Upper School Reading List *(continued)*

Faulkner, William; **Selected Short Stories**

Most of the pieces in this collection are from the fifteen years or so beginning in 1929, widely considered the greatest writing period in Faulkner's life.

Joyce, James; **Dubliners**

Among the most read and studied stories in English literature, these fifteen tales offer vivid, tightly-focused observations of the lives of Dublin's poorer classes.

O'Connor, Flannery; **The Complete Stories**

This collection of thirty-one of O'Connor's short stories won the National Book Award and established her monumental contribution to American fiction.

Welty, Eudora;

The Collected Stories

Welty's short stories are well written, full of metaphors and symbolism, and speak a multi-generational and multi-regional dialect all their own.

Poetry

Angelou, Maya; **The Complete Poetry**

Maya Angelou was a prolific poet, writer, and civil rights activist. This poetry collection was compiled after her death in 2014.

Auden, W. H.; **Collected Poems**

W.H. Auden was known for his ability to write poems in almost every verse form. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1948. This volume contains the poems Auden wished to preserve.

Brooks, Gwendolyn; **Selected Poems**

This is a classic volume by the distinguished modern African-American poet and winner of the 1950 Pulitzer Prize.

Neruda, Pablo; **Selected Poems**

In his long life as a poet, Pablo Neruda succeeded in becoming what many poets have aspired to but never achieved: a public voice, a voice not just for the people of his country but for his entire continent.

Ovid; **Metamorphoses**

Sometimes mistaken for a mythology handbook, Ovid transforms myths into narratives and poetry.

Walker, Alice; **Once**

Walker is an American novelist, short story writer, poet, and civil rights activist. She won the National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize for her novel *The Color Purple*. This was Walker's first volume of poetry.

Drama

Chekhov, Anton; **The Cherry Orchard**

One of the finest plays of the early 20th century, Anton Chekhov's last play centers on the impending loss of the "orchard."

Ibsen, Henrik; **The Wild Duck**

Many believe this play may have had its genesis in the hostility Ibsen faced after theater-goers received a larger dose of truth than they preferred from his play *Ghosts*.

O'Neill, Eugene;

Long Day's Journey Into Night

The mother, Mary Tyrone, says, "None of us can help the things that life has

done to us. They're done before you realize it, and once they're done they make you do other things until at last everything comes between you and what you'd like to be, and you've lost your true self forever." This is one of the most important plays of the 20th century.

Shaw, George Bernard; **The Devil's Disciple**

Written in 1897 and first published in 1901, this is Shaw's only play set in America. It is the story of Revolutionary War hero Richard Dudgeon, wrongly arrested by British soldiers in a case of mistaken identity, who keeps the secret, fully aware he will be hanged for another man's crimes.

Sophocles; **The Complete Greek Tragedies: Sophocles I**

Oedipus's parents attempt to avoid a bad omen, but these attempts lead them right back to exactly what they tried to avoid. Sophocles epitomizes that Greek sense of the human condition: noble, but tragic because of our limitations.

Stoppard, Tom; **Arcadia**

The scenes in this play alternate between the present day and the early nineteenth century in an English manor house. This work is philosophy versus the progress of science, with quick-witted banter throughout.

Wilde, Oscar;

The Importance of Being Earnest

Set in England during the late Victorian era, this play's humor derives in part from characters maintaining fictitious identities to escape unwelcome social obligations. It is replete with witty dialogue and satirizes some of the foibles and hypocrisy of late Victorian society.

Upper School Reading List *(continued)*

Williams, Tennessee;

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Vintage Tennessee Williams, this play is as big as the Deep South of the early 1950s it portrays. The Pollitt family has numerous problems; among them are Big Daddy's bout with cancer and son Brick and daughter-in-law Maggie's marital breakdown. Take heart; the ending is truly upbeat.

Biography, Autobiography, and Letters

Angelou, Maya;

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

Angelou writes of her experiences growing up in Stamps, Arkansas and of how literature and a stubborn, loving grandmother saved her from a life of humiliation. (Mature Themes)

Didion, Joan;

The Year of Magical Thinking

A memoir of grief, a most personal tale, Didion chronicles the sudden death of her husband and the equally stunningly unbelievable death of her only child, Quintana.

Fleming, Candace; *The Rise and Fall of Charles Lindbergh*

In this riveting biography, Candace Fleming details the life of Charles Lindbergh, an American hero who was also a complicated and deeply flawed man. Fleming has drawn on a number of primary sources for this book, including Lindbergh's own journal.

Gansworth, Eric; *Apple: Skin to the Core*

This memoir written in verse describes the author's time growing

up in an Onondaga family living on a Tuscarora reservation. Gansworth weaves references to the Beatles into the history of his growing-up years along with information about the effects of his grandparents' experiences after being taken away to boarding schools.

Gordon, Charlotte; *Romantic Outlaws: The Extraordinary Lives of Mary Wollstonecraft and Mary Shelley*

This dual biography describes the life of Mary Wollstonecraft, a pioneering English feminist, and the daughter she never knew. Wollstonecraft died eleven days after the birth of her daughter Mary, who would one day write *Frankenstein*. This is a fascinating look at the lives of these two women.

Greenblatt, Stephen; *Will in the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare*

This is one of the most articulate, carefully researched, and thoughtfully concluded biographies of Shakespeare in recent times.

Griffin, John Howard; *Black Like Me*

Novelist Griffin darkened his skin and set out to discover some startling truths about what it was really like to be an African-American in the Deep South in the 1950s.

Levi, Primo; *Survival in Auschwitz*

In 1943, Primo Levi, a 25-year-old chemist and "Italian citizen of Jewish race," was arrested and sent to Auschwitz. This is his classic account of his ten months in the German death camp.

Lewis, John and Andrew Aydin; *March* (three volumes)

John Lewis is one of the key figures in the civil rights movement in the

United States. This graphic novel trilogy is a first-hand account of Lewis' life. This graphic format was chosen, in part, because Lewis and other student activists were inspired by a 1958 comic book called "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story."

X, Malcolm;

The Autobiography of Malcolm X

Now an established classic of modern America, this autobiography of Malcolm Little conveys the pathos and impact of this controversial man.

Nonfiction

Bryson, Bill;

One Summer: America, 1927

Bryson vividly captures the exciting events taking place in the United States during the summer of 1927. His trademark eye for detail weaves together the background of each event, including historical figures like Babe Ruth, Charles Lindbergh, and Henry Ford, as well as lesser-known historical events that also figured prominently at the time.

Carson, Rachel; *Silent Spring*

This narrative articulately describes the intimate relationship between environment and life.

Colbert, Brandy; *Blackbirds in the Sky: The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre*

X

Cozzens, Peter; *The Earth is Weeping: The Epic Story of the Indian Wars of the American West*

Cozzens, an expert in 19th century warfare, presents his research in an effort to bring balance to our

understanding of the Indian Wars of the American West. This book is a winner of the Gilder-Lehrman Prize for Military History and was a Smithsonian Top History Book of 2016.

Dubois, W.E.B.;

The Souls of Black Folks

An educator born in New England, Dubois argues in 1903 for the abolition of the social color line. At the core of his argument is the importance of education. This is an especially interesting book for those interested in Southern culture.

Fagin, Dan; ***Tom's River: A Story of Science and Salvation***

The winner of the 2014 Pulitzer Prize, Tom's River is the true story of a town ravaged by industrial pollution. This book combines investigative reporting and historical research to examine this New Jersey town's cluster of childhood cancers.

Feynman, Richard; ***Six Easy Pieces: Essentials of Physics Explained by its Most Brilliant Teacher***

Feynman, a Nobel laureate, delivered a series of physics lectures at the California Institute of Technology in the 1960's that revolutionized the teaching of physics. Six Easy Pieces introduces the general reader to the most accessible topics from his lecture series. This is an ideal introduction to the fundamentals of physics.

Holt, Nathalia; ***Wise Gals: The Spies Who Built the CIA and Changed the Future of Espionage***

This is a meticulously researched group biography of the agents critical in helping build the organization we now know as the CIA. In the years after World War II, these women helped create the template for cutting-edge espionage, by developing cryptosystems, creating tools for intelligence gathering, and building partnerships all over the world.

Lee, Heath Hardage; ***League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home***

Lee chronicles the remarkable story of the group of women who formed The National League of Families and relentlessly lobbied for their husbands, who were prisoners of war in Vietnam. Their covert meetings, savvy media campaigns, and coded letters are all part of this fascinating account.

Montgomery, Sy; ***The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness***

In this fascinating book, naturalist Sy Montgomery details her research with octopuses with strikingly different personalities, both in aquarium environments and in the wild. Her work shows them as surprisingly complex, intelligent, and spirited creatures.

Parent Resources

Bruehl, Mariah; ***Playful Learning: Develop Your Child's Sense of Joy and Wonder***

Duckworth, Angela; ***Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance***

Eide, Brock L. and Fernetta F. Eide; ***The Dyslexic Advantage: Unlocking the Hidden Potential of the Dyslexic Brain***

Ginsburg, Kenneth R.; ***Building Resilience in Children and Teens: Giving Kids Roots and Wings***

Homer, Holly and Rachel Miller; ***101 Kids Activities That Are the Bestest, Funnest Ever!: The Entertainment Solution for Parents, Relatives & Babysitters!***

Levine, Madeline; ***Ready or Not: Preparing our Kids to Thrive in an Uncertain and Rapidly Changing World***

MacKenzie, Sarah; ***The Read-Aloud Family: Making Meaningful and Lasting Connections with Your Kids***

Wolf, Maryanne; ***Reader, Come Home: The Reading Brain in a Digital World***

STEAM Titles

For our families to enjoy together

There are already a number of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) titles on our summer reading list, but these are a few additional titles we thought our families might enjoy.

Bardoe, Cheryl; ***Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain***

Chatterton, Crystal; ***Awesome Science Experiments for Kids: 100+ Fun STEM / STEAM Projects and Why They Work***

Galanin, Denis; ***The Amazing World of Video Game Development***

Grandin, Temple; ***Calling All Minds: How to Think and Create Like and Inventor***

Larson; Kirsten W.; ***Wood, Wire, Wings: Emma Lilian Todd Invents an Airplane***

McCarthy, Meghan; ***Action!: How Movies Began***

Murphy, Stuart; ***Show and Tell! Great Graphs and Smart Charts: An Introduction to Infographics***

Parsons, Karyn; ***Saving the Day: Garrett Morgan's Life-Changing Invention of the Traffic Signal***

Rosenstock, Barb; ***The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art***

Schul, Christina; ***Awesome Engineering Activities for Kids: 50+ Exciting STEAM Projects to Design and Build***

Slade, Suzanne; ***Blast Off!: How Mary Sherman Morgan Fueled America into Space***

Stephens, Cassie; ***Stitch and String Lab for Kids: 40+ Creative Projects to Sew, Embroider, Weave, Wrap, and Tie***

Valdez, Patricia; ***How to Hear the Universe: Gaby González and the Search for Einstein's Ripples in Space-Time***

Wang, Andrea; ***Magic Ramen; The Story of Momofuku Ando***

Ward, Alexa; ***Sewing For Kids: 30 Fun Projects to Hand and Machine Sew***

Faculty & Staff Favorites

Stephen Alexander

Twelve Mighty Orphans: The Inspiring True Story of the Mighty Mites Who Ruled Texas Football

by Jim Dent

Skin in the Game: Hidden Asymmetries in Daily Life

by Nicholas Nassim Taleb

Britt Andrews '02

Jayber Crow by Wendell Berry

Lily Angus

Station Eleven

by Emily St. John Mandel

Narwhal and Jelly (series)

by Ben Clanton

Susan Baker

Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir

Julie Barrette

Peace Like a River by Leif Enger

Shelly Basile

The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals

by Michael Pollan

Allison Bloomfield

Under The Magnolias by T.I. Lowe

Chris Brandon

The Age of Innocence

by Edith Wharton

Ancillary Justice by Ann Leckie

Emily Brown

The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah

Jennifer Burtch

Ellie's Story: A Puppy Tale

by W. Bruce Cameron

Kate Clark

Sea of Tranquility

by Emily St. John Mandel

Ryan Cook '93

One Week in America: The 1968 Notre Dame Literary Festival and a Changing Nation

by Patrick Parr

Land Of Big Numbers: Stories

by Te-Ping Chen

Nicki Dabney

Lands of Lost Borders: A Journey on the Silk Road by Kate Harris

Sharon Daly

Second Graders are Thankful for More Than Just Thanksgiving

by North Cross School Class of 2033

Ryan DeMarco

The Third Reich Trilogy

by Sir Richard Evans

The Lost Art of Scripture: Rescuing the Sacred Texts

by Karen Armstrong

Ed Dickenson

Lafayette in the Somewhat United States by Sarah Vowell

Mistie Dickenson

Dune by Frank Herbert

Sevneves by Neal Stephenson

Kristen Dunagan

Cloud Cuckoo Land

by Anthony Doerr

Laura Gamble

The Cool Bean by Jory John

Emily Gaston

Surviving Savannah

by Patti Callahan

Matthew Gilliland

The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas are Setting Up a Generation for Failure

by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt

Carrie Greer

The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell by Robert Dugoni

Anne Hagan

Faith Still Moves Mountains: Miraculous Stories of the Healing Power of Prayer by Harris Faulkner

Maria Hammond

Taste: My Life Through Food

by Stanley Tucci

Melissa Hammond

Cutting for Stone

by Abraham Verghese

All the Light We Cannot See

by Anthony Doerr

Amy Hanson

Ithaca by Claire North

Jared Hanson

The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay by Michael Chabon

Melanie Harrison

The Rose Code by Kate Quinn

Kathleen Hendrickson

The Ethan I Was Before

by Allie Standish

Because of Mr. Terupt

by Rob Buyea

Mariana Hermosilla de Casco

Neruda on the Park

by Cleyvis Natera

Dawn Hollandsworth '75

Ground Zero by Alan Gratz

Amy Holley

The Forest of Vanishing Stars

by Kristen Harmel

This Poison Heart by Kaylyn Bayron

The House in the Cerulean Sea

by T. J. Klune

True Biz by Sara Novic

Daniel Hood***Good Omens: The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch***

by Terry Pratchett & Neil Gaiman

Foundation

by Isaac Asimov

Parable of the Sower

by Octavia Butler

Lauren Horner***Where The Crawdads Sing***

by Delia Owens

Amy Jackson***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption***

by Bryan Stevenson

Polly Jones***No Country for Old Men***

by Cormac McCarthy

Bushra Khan***The Woman Who Climbed Trees***

by Smriti Ravindra

Allie Kier***The Cartographers***

by Peng Shepherd

Magpie Murders

by Anthony Horowitz

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow

by Gabrielle Zevin

Josh Kier***Soldier, Sailor, Frogman, Spy***

by Giles Milton

Mike Koss***The Master and Margarita***

by Mikhail Bulgakov

Victor Lamas***Aztec*** by Gary Jennings**Jennifer Landry*****The Mountain Between Us***

by Charles Martin

Wendy Lawrence***The Lincoln Highway***

by Amor Towles

Jamie Lee***The Nightingale***

by Kristin Hannah

Armistead Lemon***Horse: A Novel*** by Geraldine Brooks**Jennifer Luckay*****Demon Copperhead***

by Barbara Kingsolver

Lessons in Chemistry

by Bonnie Garmus

Meade Martin***Lessons in Chemistry***

by Bonnie Garmus

Julie Mugford***Bewilderment*** by Richard Powers**Brett Odom*****The Fault in Our Stars***

by John Green

Mike Parker***Ender's Game*** by Orson Scott Card**Joyce Rice*****The Story of Science: Aristotle******Leads the Way*** by Joy Hakim**Annie Robertson*****Spare*** by Prince Harry**Taya Robertson*****Bloodmarked*** by Tracy Deonn**Robert Robillard*****Chicken of the Sea***

by Viet Thanh Nguyen

The Best We Could Do

by Thi Bui

The Sympathizer

by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Makenzie Seiple***True Biz*** by Sara Novic**Heather Slaughter*****The Blackbird Girls***

by Anne Blankman

Sarah Sledd '12***The Real Dada Mother Goose: A Treasury of Complete Nonsense***

by Jon Scieszka

Kristina Sommer***Storyteller: Tales of Life and Music***

by Dave Grohl

West with Giraffes

by Lynda Rutledge

Blair Trail***The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel******Your Life, Work, and Team with******Positive Energy*** by Jon Gordon**Emily Votta*****The Folk of the Air*** (series)

by Holly Black

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

retold by Mac Barnett

Kendra Wert***The Silence that Binds Us***

by Joanna Ho

Senior Favorites from the Class of 2023

Kinsley Alcorn

The Grace Year by Kim Liggett

Nick Andrew

The Magic Tree House: The Knight at Dawn by Mary Pope Osborne

Isabelle Aujla

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Kate Bishop

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

Jack Bohr

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire
by Suzanne Collins

Grayson Boone

The Art of War by Sun Tzu

Luke Boush

Wild Life by Cynthia DeFelice

Dat Bui

How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie

Rhone Burton

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

Ian Cann

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Nathan Carey

The Magic Tree House: Vacation Under the Volcano
by Mary Pope Osborne

Lanaya Cephas

Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss

Colin Chandel

The Silmarillion by J.R.R. Tolkien

Rocío Criado López

Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë

Ethan Dalaski

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas
by John Boyne

Chase Daniel

The Great Santini by Pat Conroy

Flavia Daniels

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

Reid Davis

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
by Mark Twain

Eleena Dinh

A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara

Brooklyn Durham

The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks

Nico Eagan

The Gallery by Laura Marx Fitzgerald
The Inquistor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog by Adam Gidwitz

Lani Eliades

The Secret History by Donna Tartt

Dylan England

The Official 2023 NHRA Rulebook

Noah Evans

Camino Winds by John Grisham

Ethan Ferguson

How to Train Your Dragon
by Cressida Cowell

Jack Formato

The Compass: The Places We Go
by Compass Yearbook Staff

Taejon Garrison

Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi

Hannes Hammer

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Alex Hammond

Dune by Frank Herbert

Will Hoff

Can't Hurt Me: Master Your Mind and Defy the Odds
by David Goggins

Jackson Holland

Dog Man and Cat Kid by Dav Pilkey

Natalie Jensen

Land of Big Numbers
by Te-Ping Chen

Maria Krotov

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
by Maya Angelou

Matt Landry

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Thai Lang

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

James Lee

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Chase Lemon

And Then There Were None
by Agatha Christie

India López García

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire
by Suzanne Collins

Katie Lorens

Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption by Laura Hillenbrand

Massoki Maka

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

Henry Martin

The 48 Laws of Power
by Robert Greene

Denzel Marufu

The Bible (King James Version)

Joe Mason

The Great Gatsby
by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Zach Morgan

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Nick Owen

The Four Agreements: A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom
by Don Miguel Ruiz

Maeve Parnell

Normal People by Sally Rooney

Grayson Prillaman

A Dog's Purpose

by W. Bruce Cameron

Gracean Ratliff

The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri

Irene Ruiz González

The Maze Runner by James Dashner

Kylie Schaefer

Scythe by Neal Shusterman

Cameron Scott

Harry Potter and the Goblet of

Fire by J.K. Rowling

Minh Ta

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Sally Terrill

The Witch Doesn't Burn in this One

by Amanda Lovelace

Alexis Teter

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Caleb Thompson

Extreme Ownership: How U.S.

Navy Seals Lead and Win

by Jocko Willink and Leif Babin

Kyle Thomson

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Landon Trail

Moby Dick by Herman Melville

Haley Vu

Gone with the Wind

by Margaret Mitchell

Kalani Weed

Voyage Of The Dawn Treader

by C.S. Lewis



North Cross School is an independent, nonsectarian, college-preparatory school that serves children from early childhood through twelfth grade. North Cross provides a rigorous academic curriculum, competitive with the best college-preparatory schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia. While we explicitly recognize the importance of intellectual development and academic achievement, we also strive to promote personal integrity, empathy, and responsibility to self and community. Through this, our graduates will act as leaders in the local and global communities, persons of intellectual and moral courage, and scholars in the service of others.



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