



# Bernardsville Middle School 2011 Summer Reading



Students Entering Grade 5

Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.

## One School, One Book

All STUDENTS Entering 5<sup>th</sup> Grade SHOULD read:

**Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie\*\* – Jordan Sonnenblick**



When his younger brother becomes very sick, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

**\*\*Parents of entering 5<sup>th</sup> graders are highly encouraged to read these titles with their children.**

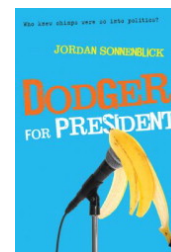
In addition, all students entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade should read at least one of the following titles by Jordan Sonnenblick:



**After Ever After\*\*:**  
**\*Sequel to Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie!**  
Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.



**Dodger and Me:**  
Miserable because his only friend moved away and he has again caused his baseball team to lose a game, Willy Ryan's life suddenly becomes a lot more interesting when he finds Dodger, a furry, blue chimpanzee that only he can see, and he has to decide what he really wishes for in life.



**Dodger for President:**  
When Dodger, the big, blue chimpanzee genie, magically impersonates fifth-grader Willie one day at school, Willie finds himself running for student council president.

### Teacher Picks:

**The Chronicles of Narnia – C.S. Lewis**  
A seven-part fantasy series in which a group of children walk into a magical realm called Narnia and find themselves in the midst of an ongoing battle between good and evil led by the lion king Aslan.  
- Mrs. Tchorz, Literacy – Grade 5

**Archer's Quest - Linda Sue Park**  
Twelve-year-old Kevin helps Chu-mong, a legendary king of ancient Korea, return to his own time.

**Harry Potter Series – J.K. Rowling**  
Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt

and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

**39 Clues Series – Various Authors**  
Amy and Dan, members of the powerful Cahill family, try to uncover the thirty-nine clues which will reveal the secrets of their lineage and find out what really happened to their parents.  
- Mrs. McMillan, Literacy – Grade 5

**Frindle – Andrew Clements**  
When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's

love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

***The Penderwicks* - Jeanne Birdsall**

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

- Miss MacGorman, BMS School Librarian

***The Invention of Huge Cabret* – Brian Selznick**

When Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931,

meets a mysterious toyseller, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

***The Mysterious Benedict Society* – Trenton Lee Stewart**

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

- Mrs. Crowley, Bedwell School Librarian

**Additional Suggested Titles:**

***A Wrinkle in Time* - Madeleine L'Engle**

Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time, assisted by three otherworldly women, when they set out to find Meg's father, a physicist who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

***Artemis Fowl* – Eoin Colfer**

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* - Roald Dahl**

Each of five children lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory takes advantage of the situation in his own way.

***The Million Dollar Shot* - Dan Gutman**

Eleven-year-old Eddie gets a chance to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot at the National Basketball Association finals

***Holes* – Louis Sachar**

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

***Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series* – Rick Riordan**

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

***11 Birthdays* – Wendy Mass**

After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.

***Harriet the Spy* – Louise Fitzhugh**

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

***A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray* - Ann M. Martin**

A stray puppy named Squirrel relates her life story (beginning with her nurturing mother), providing details of her experiences with both nice and mean humans, busy highways, and the seasons and ending with her meeting two friends.

***Bunnica* - James Howe**

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire.

***The City of Ember* - Jeanne DuPrau**

In the city of Ember, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

***The Doll People* - Ann M. Martin**

A family of dolls that has lived in the same house for years is taken aback when a family of dolls arrives and doesn't follow The Doll Code of Honor.

Images and Summaries from: [Titlewave](http://Titlewave.com), Follett Library Resources, Titlewave.com



**Bernardsville Middle School  
2011 Summer Reading**



**Students Entering Grade 6**

**Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.**

**One School, One Book**

**All STUDENTS Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade SHOULD read:**

**Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie – Jordan Sonnenblick**



**When his younger brother becomes very sick, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.**

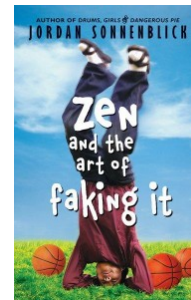
**In addition, all students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade should read at least one of the following titles by Jordan Sonnenblick:**



**After Ever After:**  
**\*Sequel to Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie!**  
Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.



**Dodger and Me:**  
Miserable because his only friend moved away and he has again caused his baseball team to lose a game, Willy Ryan's life suddenly becomes a lot more interesting when he finds Dodger, a furry, blue chimpanzee that only he can see, and he has to decide what he really wishes for in life.



**Zen and the Art of Faking It:**  
When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer—and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

**Top Teacher Picks:**

**A Mango-Shaped Space – Wendy Mass**

Afraid that she is crazy, thirteen-year-old Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school, changing relationships, and the death of her beloved cat, Mango.

**The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle – Avi**  
As the lone "young lady" on a transatlantic voyage in 1832, Charlotte learns that the captain is murderous and the crew rebellious.

**- Mrs. Reznick, Literacy – Grade 6**  
**Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series – Jeff Kinney**

Greg records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive, but when Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship.

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

With nowhere else to turn, a field mouse asks the clever escaped lab rats living under the rosebush to help save her son, who lies in the path of the farmer's tractor, too ill to be moved.

**- Miss Paparozzi, Literacy – Grade 6**

***Anne of Green Gables* – Lucy Maud Montgomery**

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

- Mrs. Procacci, Literacy – Grade 6

***Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series***

- Rick Riordan

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and a Greek God, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself and joins

his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

***39 Clues Series* – Various Authors**

Amy and Dan, members of the powerful Cahill family, try to uncover the thirty-nine clues which will reveal the secrets of their lineage and find out what really happened to their parents.

***Chasing Redbird* - Sharon Creech**

Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky.

- Miss MacGorman, BMS School Librarian

**Additional Suggested Titles:**

***Castle Corona* - Sharon Creech**

Two orphaned peasant children discover a mysterious pouch, the contents of which lead them to the majestic Castle Corona, where their lives may be transformed forever.

***The Secret Garden* - Frances Hodgson Burnett**

Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

***A Crooked Kind of Perfect* - Linda Urban**

Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, instead, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life.

***Edward's Eyes* - Patricia MacLachlan**

Edward is one of a large and close family that loves baseball, music, books, and each other, and when he unexpectedly dies and his parents donate his organs, his wonderful eyes go to a perfect recipient.

***The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* – Jacqueline Kelly**

In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

***Leepike Ridge* - N.D. Wilson**

While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.

***Pictures of Hollis Woods* – Patricia Reilly Giff**

A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

***Ranger's Apprentice: Book One* – John Flanagan**

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.

***Shakespeare's Secret* – Elise Broach**

Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.

***The Last Apprentice Series* - Joseph Delaney**

Young Tom starts work as an apprentice for the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folk from "ghouls, boggarts, and all manner of wicked beasts."

***Swordbird* - Nancy Yi Fan**

Warring factions of blue jays and cardinals call on Swordbird, the heroic bird of peace, to rescue them from the evil machinations of Turnatt, the tyrant hawk lord who plans to enslave them.

***Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* – Jack Gantos**

To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription meds wear off and he starts getting worked up and acting wired.

Images and Summaries from: [Titlewave](http://Titlewave.com). Follett Library Resources. Titlewave.com



**Bernardsville Middle School  
2011 Summer Reading**

**Students Entering Grade 7**



**Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.**

**One School, One Book**

**All STUDENTS Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade SHOULD read:**

**Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie – Jordan Sonnenblick**



**When his younger brother becomes very sick, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.**

**In addition, all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade should read at least one of the following titles by Jordan Sonnenblick:**



**After Ever After\*\*:**  
**\*Sequel to Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie!**  
Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.



**Dodger and Me:**  
Miserable because his only friend moved away and he has again caused his baseball team to lose a game, Willy Ryan's life suddenly becomes a lot more interesting when he finds Dodger, a furry, blue chimpanzee that only he can see, and he has to decide what he really wishes for in life.



**Zen and the Art of Faking It:**  
When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer—and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

**Top Teacher Picks:**

**Al Capone Does My Shirts – Gennifer Choldenko**  
A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

A look at fast food, what's in it, how it's made, and what it does to our bodies.

**- Ms. Flynn, Literacy – Grade 7**

**Hoot – Carl Hiassan**  
Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

**The Last Olympian – Percy Jackson Series – Rick Riordan**  
The long-awaited prophecy surrounding Percy Jackson's sixteenth birthday unfolds as he leads an army of young demigods to stop Kronos in his advance on New York City, while the Olympians struggle to contain the rampaging monster, Typhon.

**Magyk – Septimus Heap Series – Angie Sage**

**Chew on This – Eric Schlosser**

Jenna learns that she is a princess found as a baby by the man she believed was her father and now she and Septimus, who was taken at birth by the midwife, are being threatened by the evil wizard, DomDaniel, who intends to finish off the entire royal line.

- Mrs. Burke, Literacy – Grade 7

### ***The Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman***

The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.

### **Additional Suggested Titles:**

### ***Maximum Ride Series - James Patterson***

After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose.

### ***Walk Two Moons – Sharon Creech***

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

### ***Heat – Mike Lupica***

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

### ***Tales of the Greek Heroes - Roger Lancelyn Green***

For fans of Greek mythology, this collection retells nineteen heroic Greek myths, including the stories of Prometheus, Hercules, Theseus, Hermes and Apollo, the first fall of Troy, and the battle of the Giants.

### ***Run, Boy, Run - Uri Orlev***

Read this true story of a nine-year-old boy who escapes the Warsaw Ghetto and must survive throughout the war in the Nazi-occupied Polish countryside.

### ***Savvy - Ingrid Law***

Follow the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

### ***Stargirl - Jerry Spinelli***

Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.

- Miss MacGorman, BMS School Librarian

### ***The Hunger Games Trilogy - Suzanne Collins***

Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

- Mrs. Burke, Ms. Flynn, and Miss Mac!

### ***SilverFin: Young Bond #1 - Charles Higson***

Young James Bond, a student at the Eton boarding school in the 1930s, travels to his aunt's Scotland estate for the Easter holidays where he becomes caught up in investigating the disappearance of a local boy, a crime allegedly linked to a madman with a plot for global domination.

### ***Coraline - Neil Gaiman***

Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.

### ***The Face on the Milk Carton – Caroline B. Cooney***

A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity.

### ***Lyddie - Katherine Paterson***

Impoverished Vermont farm girl Lyddie Worthen is determined to gain her independence by becoming a factory worker in Lowell, Massachusetts, in the 1840s.

### ***Football Hero – Tim Green***

When twelve-year-old Ty's brother Thane is recruited out of college to play for the New York Jets, their Uncle Gus uses Ty to get insider information for his gambling ring, landing Ty and Thane in trouble with the Mafia.

### ***Treasure Island - Robert Louis Stevenson***

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of an inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune.



**Bernardsville Middle School  
2011 Summer Reading  
Students Entering Grade 8**



**Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.**

**One School, One Book**

**All STUDENTS Entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade SHOULD read:**

**Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie – Jordan Sonnenblick**

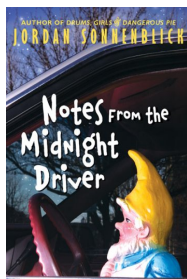


**When his younger brother becomes very sick, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.**

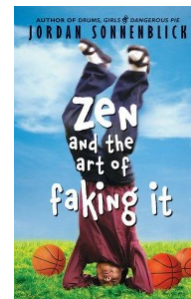
**In addition, all students entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade should read at least one of the following titles by Jordan Sonnenblick:**



**After Ever After:**  
**\*Sequel to Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie!**  
Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.



**Notes from the Midnight Driver:**  
After being assigned to perform community service at a nursing home, sixteen-year-old Alex befriends a cantankerous old man who has some lessons to impart about jazz guitar playing, love, and forgiveness.



**Zen and the Art of Faking It:**  
When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer -and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

**Top Teacher Picks:**

**The Extraordinary Cases of Sherlock Holmes – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**

Read these eight classic Sherlock Holmes mysteries, including "The Adventure of the Speckled Band," "Silver Blaze," and "The Reigate Puzzle."

A one-volume edition of the trilogy which tells of the quest undertaken by the hobbit Frodo and his companions to journey across Middle-earth and cast the evil One Ring, into the Cracks of Doom.

**- Mrs. White, Literacy – Grade 8**

**The Fall of the House of Usher: and other tales – Edgar Allan Poe**

This book of short stories presents fifteen tales of horror by Edgar Allan Poe, including "The Fall of the House of Usher."

**Thirteen Reasons Why: A Novel – Jay Asher**

High school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing seven cassette tapes recorded by his crush, Hannah Baker, who committed suicide, and spends a bewildering and heartbreaking night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

**The Lord of the Rings: Single-Volume Edition – J.R.R. Tolkien**

***The Body of Christopher Creed* – Carol Plum-Ucci**

Torey Adams, a high school junior with a seemingly perfect life, struggles with doubts and questions surrounding the mysterious disappearance of the class outcast.

- Ms. Both, Literacy - Grade 8

***The Maze Runner* – James Dashner**

Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.

***Life As We Knew It (Series)* – Susan Beth Pfeffer**

**Additional Suggested Titles:**

***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* - Sherman Alexie**

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

***Leviathan* – Scott Westerfeld**

In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts.

***Eon: Dragoneye Reborn* - Alison Goodman**

Sixteen-year-old Eon hopes to become an apprentice to one of the twelve energy dragons of good fortune and learn to be its main interpreter, but to do so will require much, including keeping secret that she is a girl.

***Journey to the Center of the Earth* - Jules Verne**

Jules Verne's classic nineteenth-century science-fiction story about a scientist who leads a group on a treacherous journey to the center of the earth and discovers a lost civilization.

***The Vampire Diaries* – L.J. Smith**

Two vampire brothers, Stefan and Damon, are torn apart by their mutual love for Elena, a golden girl who can have any boy she wants.

***The Once and Future King* - T.H. White**

Read the story of the youth and reign of King Arthur, the establishment of the Round Table, and the search for the Holy Grail.

Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

***The Compound* - S.E. Bodeen**

Fifteen-year-old Eli, locked inside a radiation-proof compound built by his father to keep them safe following a nuclear attack, begins to question his future, as well as his father's grip on sanity, as the family's situation steadily disintegrates over the course of six years.

- Miss MacGorman, BMS School Librarian

***City of Bones* – The Mortal Instruments Series – Cassandra Clare**

Suddenly able to see demons and the Darkhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into this bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster.

***The Hunger Games Trilogy* - Suzanne Collins**

Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

***Stranger with My Face* - Lois Duncan**

A seventeen-year-old senses she is being spied on and probably impersonated, but when she discovers what actually is occurring, it is more unbelievable than she ever imagined.

***Ender's Game* – Orson Scott Card**

Young Ender Wiggin may prove to be the military genius Earth needs to fight a desperate battle against a deadly alien race that will determine the future of the human race.

***7 Habits of Highly Effective Teenagers* - Sean Covey**

Presents self-assessments, self-examination questions, journal prompts, and other activities designed to help teenagers gain an awareness of their character, strengths, and weaknesses and improve themselves by strengthening their self-esteem, self-control, friendships, and focus on goals.

Images and Summaries from:  
[Titlewave.com](http://Titlewave.com), [Follett Library Resources](http://FollettLibraryResources.com), [Titlewave.com](http://Titlewave.com)



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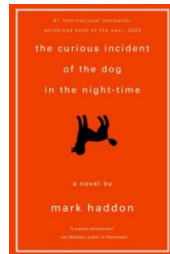
*Students Entering Grade 9*

**Please Note:** All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.

**REQUIRED READING:**

All students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade **ARE REQUIRED** to read **TWO BOOKS** over the **SUMMER!**

Everyone **MUST** read:



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

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

Everyone **MUST** pick **ONE** additional title from the following **TWO** choices:

***The Life of Pi - Yann Martel***

Pi Patel, having spent an idyllic childhood in Pondicherry, India, as the son of a zookeeper, sets off with his family at the age of sixteen to start anew in Canada, but his life takes a marvelous turn when their ship sinks in the Pacific, leaving him adrift on a raft with a 450-pound Bengal tiger for company.

***It's Not About the Bike - Lance Armstrong***

Champion cyclist Lance Armstrong describes his triumph over cancer.

**Top Teacher Picks:**

***Graceling - Kristin Cashore***

In a world where some people are born with extreme and often-feared skills called Graces, Katsa struggles for redemption from her own horrifying Grace of killing and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king.

***Looking for Alaska – John Green***

Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

***Kissing Doorknobs – Terry Spencer Hesser***

Fourteen-year-old Tara describes how her increasingly strange compulsions begin to take over her life and affect her relationships with her family and friends.

***My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, & Fenway Park – Steve Kluger***

Three Boston teens, about to become seniors, learn important lessons about friendship, love, family, and themselves as they work to complete an English assignment on their "most excellent year."

**- Miss MacGorman, BMS School Librarian**

***Shift - Jennifer Bradbury***

When best friends Chris and Win go on a cross country bicycle trek the summer after graduating and only one returns, the FBI wants to know what happened.

***Gone - Michael Grant***

In a small town on the coast of California, everyone over the age of fourteen suddenly disappears, setting up a battle between the remaining town

residents and the students from a local private school, as well as those who have "The Power" and are able to perform supernatural feats and those who do not.

***The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks* - E. Lockhart**

Frankie Landau-Banks attempts to take over a secret, all-male society at her exclusive prep school, and her antics with the group soon draw some unlikely attention and have unexpected consequences that could change her life forever.

- Miss Oswald, BHS School Librarian

### ***Additional Suggestions:***

***The Lord of the Rings: Single-Volume Edition* – J.R.R. Tolkien**

A one-volume edition of the trilogy which tells of the quest undertaken by the hobbit Frodo and his companions to journey across Middle-earth and cast the evil One Ring, into the Cracks of Doom.

***How Not to Be Popular* - Jennifer Ziegler**

Seventeen-year-old Sugar Magnolia Dempsey is tired of leaving friends behind every time her hippie parents decide to move, but her plan to be unpopular at her new Austin, Texas, school backfires when other students join her on the path to "supreme dorkdom."

***Num8ers* – Rachel Ward**

Fifteen-year-old Jem knows when she looks at someone the exact date they will die, so she avoids relationships and tries to keep out of the way, but when she meets a boy named Spider and they plan a day out together, they become more involved than either of them had planned.

***Wintergirls* – Laurie Halse Anderson**

Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend's death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder.

***How to Steal a Car* - Pete Hautman**

Kelleigh, a fifteen-year-old suburban high school student with a learner's permit, recounts how she began stealing cars one summer despite being unsure of her reasons for doing so.

***All We Know of Heaven* – Jacquelyn Mitchard**

Sixteen-year-old best friends Maureen and Bridget are in a terrible accident where Bridget dies and is incorrectly identified as Maureen; but when Maureen recovers, she must deal with the repercussions of the accident as well as the loss of her best friend.

***Unwind* – Neal Shusterman**

Three teens embark upon a cross-country journey in order to escape from a society that salvages body parts from children ages thirteen to eighteen.

***Three Little Words* – Ashley Rhodes-Courter**

Ashley Rhodes-Courter provides an account of her life, focusing on the nine years she spent in Florida's foster care system after being removed from her mother at the age of three, and explaining how her life changed after she was adopted.

***Shiver* – Maggie Stiefvater**

In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been particularly drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf who, in his turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity.

***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* - Mark Twain**

This novel follows the adventures of a boy and a runaway slave as they travel down the Mississippi River on a raft.

***Impossible* – Nancy Werlin**

When seventeen-year-old Lucy discovers her family is under an ancient curse by an evil Elfin Knight, she realizes that she must perform three impossible tasks before her daughter is born to break the curse and to save them both.

***The Knife of Never Letting Go* – Patrick Ness**

Todd, one month away from an important birthday, learns all the tough lessons of adulthood when he is forced to flee after discovering a secret near the town where he lives.

***The Mortal Instruments Series* – Cassandra Clare**

Suddenly able to see demons and the Darkhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into this bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster.