

Incoming 2nde 2024 Summer Reading List

The Summer Holidays are the perfect time to sit back, relax and enjoy reading great books! Be sure to read at least 1 of the following works before school begins in September. You should be ready to write about your book one the first day of school.



Author	Title	Genre	What's it about?
Elizabeth Wein	<i>Rose Under Fire</i>	Historical Fiction	Growing up in a concentration camp in World War 2
Helen Dunmore	<i>The Siege</i>	Historical Fiction	Set in Leningrad during the siege of Leningrad during World War 2
Dodie Smith	<i>I Capture the Castle</i>	Comedy Romance	Through six turbulent months of 1934, 17 year old Cassandra Mortmain keeps a journal
Emily Brontë	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	Classic Romance	Tragic love story of Heathcliff and Cathy, set in Yorkshire in the 1830's.
William Goldman	<i>The Princess Bride</i>	Romance Fantasy	Written in 1973 combining elements of fantasy and romantic love
Catherine Fisher	<i>Incarceron</i>	Fantasy	Contrast between a new age experimental prison and the world outside
Charles Dickens	<i>Oliver Twist</i>	Classic	The story of the orphan Oliver and his struggle to survive in the workhouses of in Victorian London.
Madeline Miller	<i>Circe</i>	Greek mythology	Greek mythology told from a female perspective.
Sophie Mackenzie	<i>Split Second</i>	Thriller	The story of Charlie and Nat, whose lives have been devastated by a terrorist bomb in modern day London.
Rani Manicka	<i>The Rice Mother</i>	Historical Fiction	One woman writes her family's legend of a curse that has passed on; set in colonial Malaysia.
Chris Bradford	<i>Ransom</i>	Thriller	14 year old bodyguard Conner Reeves gets posted on a dangerous mission on a yacht
Patrick Radden Keefe	<i>Say Nothing</i>	Nonfiction; true crime	A true story of murder and memory in Northern Ireland.
Rebecca Cantrell	<i>The World Beneath</i>	Thriller	A heart pounding thriller with a puzzle, set in New York
Yann Martel	<i>The Life of Pi</i>	Adventure	Story of 16 year old Pi who emigrates from India to America along with a cargo ship full of zoo animals
Sherman Alexie	<i>The Absolute Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	Modern	Using humour, Sherman Alexie recounts the trials of a Native American teenager
Khaled Hosseini	<i>The Kite Runner</i>	Social Realism	Story of young Muslim Amir struggling in the world after a traumatic childhood
James A. Michener	<i>The Bridge at Andau</i>	Historical Fiction	The 1956 Hungarian Uprising
Alex Haley	<i>Roots</i>	Historical	The story of an African sold into slavery in the US and the lives of his descendants.
Andrew Harding	<i>These Are Not Gentle People</i>	Nonfiction; true crime	Two dead men, 40 Suspects. The trial that broke a South African town.
Louise Alcott	<i>Little Women</i>	Classic American	A family of 4 sisters try to make it without their dad during the American Civil War
Jacqueline Woodson	<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Poetry	Anthology of poems
Naomi Shilhob Nye	<i>What Have You Lost?</i>	Poetry	Anthology of poems

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History Summer Reading: Students must read one of the following books (paper books or electronic version):

Author	Title	Genre	What's it about?
Steve Sheinkin	<i>Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War</i>	Biography	How one man revealed the truth about the Vietnam War and Richard Nixon.
John Florio & Ouisie Shapiro	<i>Doomed: Sacco, Vanzetti & the End of the American Dream</i>	Biography	How the Red Scare leads to conspiracy theories and hatred of Italian immigrants
Anita Sanchez	<i>The Monkey Trial: John Scopes and the Battle Over Teaching Evolution</i>	History	We often talk about the Culture Wars as it is a modern occurrence. But it actually began in the 1920's in Tennessee
Candace Fleming	<i>The Rise and Fall of Charles Lindbergh</i>	Biography	The life of an American hero, environmentalist, or fighter pilot who was also believed in Nazi racial theory
Karen Blumenthal	<i>Bootleg : Murder, Moonshine, and the Lawless Years of Prohibition</i>	History	The failure of the attempt to prohibit alcohol in the United States.
Robert Kennedy	<i>13 Days</i>	Memoire	Robert's account of the Cuban Missile Crisis.
Isabel Wilkerson	<i>The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration</i>	History	Looks closely at the experience of African-Americans from the Great Migration to the present day. For confident reader.
Marc Favreau	<i>Crash: the Great Depression and the Rise of America</i>	History	Reviews the Roaring Twenties leading to the Great Depression and its affect on everyday Americans.

Obligatory Written Assignment:

Write a formal letter (3/4 of a page max, typewritten) to the author of the book where you describe what you have learned from reading his or her book. Be sure to include what you believe the purpose of the book was as well as how effective you believe the author was in communicating that message. Feel free to include questions you may have about parts of the book as well as about the author him/herself. If the author you have chosen is still alive, we will send your letter to the author via the publisher of the book.

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TEXTBOOKS TO PURCHASE IF SI ENROLLEMENT AFTER JUNE 28th, 2024:

Author	Title	Genre	What's it about?
Hodder	<i>Cambridge IGCSE and O Level History 3rd Edition: Option B: The 20th century</i>	Ben Walsh, Benjamin Harrison	ISBN 978-139837505-5: New students only. Returning students already have this book.
Oxford	<i>Oxford School Shakespeare Anthony and Cleopatra</i>	Shakespeare	ISBN: 978-0-19-839334-4
Penguin	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>	Tennessee Williams	ISBN: 978-0141190273