



## St. John's Episcopal School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading 2022

This summer you will read three (3) novels:

- 1) the required reading novel,
- 2) a novel from the suggested reading list, and
- 3) a novel of your own choosing.

### REQUIRED READING:

***Hoot*** by Carl Hiaasen

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.

This novel will be discussed at the beginning of the school year, so it is suggested that you read it in August to keep it fresh in your mind. **Please answer the Required Reading Questions on the attached form and bring it to your English class on the first day of school.**

You must complete a reading log of the three books read this summer, which your parents will initial. The list should include titles, authors, and dates when reading began and ended for each book. Titles enjoyed that are beyond the summer reading requirements should be added to the log as well. **In addition to the Required Reading Questions form, you will turn this log in to your English teacher on the first day of school.**

Read, read, read and enjoy your summer!

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## SUGGESTED READING (you must choose **one** of these):

The list below comprises books meant to appeal to rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who have different reading abilities and interests and who have reached different levels of developmental maturity. Each book on the list is not intended to suit every student in the grade. We have noted awards where applicable, and we encourage parents to explore reviews of these books further through resources such as Common Sense Media.

Alston, B. B. ***Amari and the Night Brothers***. 2021. *School Library Journal* starred (2020), *Publishers Weekly* starred (2020), *Kirkus* starred (2020), \*Lone Star List (2022).

Amari Peters has never stopped believing her missing brother, Quinton, is alive. Not even when the police told her otherwise, or when she got in trouble for standing up to bullies who said he was gone for good. So when she finds a ticking briefcase in his closet, containing a nomination for a summer tryout at the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs, she's certain the secretive organization holds the key to locating Quinton—if only she can wrap her head around the idea of magicians, fairies, aliens, and other supernatural creatures all being real.

Arden, Katherine. ***Small Spaces***. 2018. *Kirkus* starred (2018), *Booklist* starred (2018), Lone Star List (2020).

After suffering a tragic loss, eleven-year-old Ollie, who only finds solace in books, discovers a chilling ghost story about a girl named Beth, the two brothers who loved her, and a peculiar deal made with “the smiling man”—a sinister specter who grants your most tightly held wish, but only for the ultimate price.

Benjamin, Ali. ***The Thing About Jellyfish***. 2015. National Book Award finalist (2015), *School Library Journal* starred (2015), *Publishers Weekly* starred (2015), *Kirkus* starred (2015), *Booklist* starred (2015). Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.

Draper, Sharon M. ***Out of My Mind***. 2012. A Parents' Choice Silver Honor Book (2010), *School Library Journal* starred (2010), *Kirkus* starred (2010), *Booklist* starred (2010).

Eleven-year-old Melody is not like most people. She can't walk. She can't talk. She can't write. All because she has cerebral palsy. But she also has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it. Most people—her teachers, her doctors, her classmates—dismiss her as mentally challenged because she can't tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by her disability. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.

Faruqi, Saadia and Laura Shovan. ***A Place at the Table***. 2020. Sydney Taylor Book Awards Middle Grade Notable (2021), Lone Star List (2021).

Elizabeth is struggling with the new school year. Her best friend has dumped her for the popular crowd, even in the after-school cooking class they decided to take together. Sara hates her new school. She's always attended a small Muslim school, and now she doesn't know how she fits into a big public school. Her mother's cooking club just makes everything worse. When Elizabeth and Sara are thrown together as cooking partners, an unlikely friendship begins to develop.

Freeman, Megan E. **Alone**. 2021. NCTE Notable Verse Novel (2021), Best Books of the Year (2022). When twelve-year-old Maddie hatches a scheme for a secret sleepover with her two best friends, she ends up waking up to a nightmare. She's alone - left behind in a town that has been mysteriously evacuated and abandoned. With no one to rely on, no power, and no working phone lines or internet access, Maddie slowly learns to survive on her own. Her only companions are a Rottweiler named George and all the books she can read. After a rough start, Maddie learns to trust her own ingenuity and invents clever ways to survive in a place that has been deserted and forgotten. As months pass, she escapes natural disasters, looters, and wild animals. But Maddie's most formidable enemy is the crushing loneliness she faces every day.

Gratz, Alan. **Ground Zero**. 2021. School Library Journal starred (2021), Booklist starred (2021), Lone Star List (2022).

Brandon is visiting his dad on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 when the attack comes; Reshmina is a girl in Afghanistan who has grown up in the aftermath of that attack but dreams of peace, becoming a teacher and escaping her village and the narrow role that the Taliban believes is appropriate for women--both are struggling to survive, both changed forever by the events of 9/11.

Hoose, Phillip. **The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club**. 2015. Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Honor (2016), School Library Journal starred (2015), Horn Book starred (2015), Kirkus starred (2015), Publishers Weekly starred (2015), Booklist starred (2015).

The true story of a group of boy resistance fighters in Denmark after the Nazi invasion during World War II.

Kim, Graci. **The Last Fallen Star**. 2021. Booklist starred (2021), Lone Star List (2022).

Because she is adopted, Riley has always been an outsider to her family's magical community. When her sister tries a spell to share her magic, things go terribly wrong, and Riley is the only one who can save her.

Martin, Laura. **Glitch**. 2020. School Library Journal starred (2020), Lone Star List (2022).

Regan Fitz and Elliot Mason have been enemies since they started training to become Glitchers—people who travel through time to preserve important historical events. But everything changes when they find a letter from Regan's future self, warning them about an impending disaster that threatens them and everyone they know. Will they be able to set aside their past in order to save the future?

McAnulty, Stacy. **Millionaires for the Month**. 2020. Junior Library Guild Selection (2021), Lone Star List (2022).

After seventh graders Benji and Felix 'borrow' \$20 from a lost wallet, the billionaire owner challenges them to spend over \$5 million dollars in thirty days. If they can do it, they'll each get \$10 million to keep. But money can't buy everything or fix every problem. And spending it isn't always as easy and fun as they thought it would be. . .

Nielsen, Jennifer A. **Rescue**. 2021. Junior Library Guild Pick (2021), Edgar Award Nominee (2022).

657 days ago Meg's British father left their home in France to fight the Nazis, leaving some codes in a jar for her to decipher, and Meg and her French mother moved to the Perche, a region in France near Normandy known for its forests; now Meg watches the German soldiers in town, and sometimes carries messages for the French resistance--but suddenly things have gotten much more dangerous: there is a wounded British officer hiding in her grandmother's barn, a family of German refugees who are trying to get to Spain, and the Nazis have arrived on the doorstep searching for the fugitives.

Ponti, James. **City Spies**. 2020. Edgar Award Winner, New York Public Library Best Books for Kids (2020), Lone Star List (2021).

Sara only hacked the New York state foster system to prove her awful foster parents are crooks. Instead, she's facing years in juvenile detention until a mysterious man called Mother offers her the opportunity to become a spy for British spy agency MI6. Now she's part of an elite team whose first mission is to stop an internet terrorist.

Schwab, Victoria. **City of Ghosts**. 2018. *Publishers Weekly* starred (2018), Lone Star List (2018).

Ever since her near-fatal drowning, Cassidy has been able to pull back the "Veil" that separates the living from the dead and see ghosts, not that she wants to, and she was really looking forward to a ghost-free summer at the beach; however her parents are going to start filming a TV series about the world's most haunted places, starting with Edinburgh with its graveyards, castles, and restless phantoms--and Cass and her personal ghost companion, Jacob, are about to find out that a city of old ghosts can be a very dangerous place indeed.

Volkenstein, M. Evan. **Turtle Boy**. 2020. Sydney Taylor Book Award (2021), Lone Star List (2022).

Seventh grade is not going well for Will Levine. Kids at school bully him because of a facial deformity. But then, for his bar mitzvah community service, he has to go to the hospital to see a terminally ill boy, RJ. RJ may never leave the hospital again, so he asks Will to complete his bucket list. And as he completes each task, Will finds out that life's too short to live it in a shell.

\*The Lone Star reading list is developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to explore a variety of current books. (<https://txla.org/tools-resources/reading-lists/lone-star/current-list/>)

## St. John's Summer Reading **Required Book** Questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Novel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide as much detailed information as possible about the **required novel** using complete sentences. Return this sheet (along with your signed reading log) to your English teacher on the first day of school.

Describe the **setting**.

Briefly summarize the **plot**.

Identify and describe the **main characters**.

Describe the main **conflict** or **problem** in the novel as well as the **resolution** or **solution**.

Would you recommend this book? **Using specific examples from the book explain, why or why not.**

[illegible]