

2011 Summer Reading List:

Incoming 8th Grade

Students are encouraged to **read at least 1 book from this list** plus 2 more books of their choice, for a total of 3 books. Parents are encouraged to review, discuss and decide with their child what titles would be best.

***Pathfinder.* by Orson Scott Card**

Thirteen-year-old Rigg has a secret ability to see the paths of others' pasts, but revelations after his father's death set him on a dangerous quest that brings new threats from those who would either control his destiny or kill him.

***The Domsday Box: A Shadow Project Adventure.* by Herbie Brennan (series)**

Working on a highly-classified espionage project, four English teenagers go back in time to the Cold War in 1962 to prevent a global outbreak of the bubonic plague in the twenty-first century.

***Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie.* by David Lubar**

While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

***Incarceron.* by Catherine Fisher (series)**

To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

***Annexed.* By Sgarib Dogar**

Retells the story of Anne Frank from the perspective of Peter, who overcomes an initial loathing for the precocious young diarist before falling in love with her and questioning his faith in light of frightening persecutions.

***Bruiser.* by Neal Shusterman**

Inexplicable events start to occur when sixteen-year-old twins Tennyson and Bronte befriend a troubled and misunderstood outcast, aptly nicknamed Bruiser, and his little brother, Cody.

***The Crowfield Curse.* by Pat Walsh**

In 1347, when fourteen-year-old orphan William Paynel, an impoverished servant at Crowfield Abbey, goes into the forest to gather wood and finds a magical creature caught in a trap, he discovers he has the ability to see fays and becomes embroiled in a strange mystery involving Old Magic, a bitter feud, and ancient secrets.

***The Grimm Legacy.* by Polly Shulman**

New York high school student Elizabeth gets an after-school job as a page at the "New-York Circulating Material Repository," and when she gains coveted access to its Grimm Collection of magical objects, she and the other pages are drawn into a series of frightening adventures involving mythical creatures and stolen goods.

***IQ: Book 1 Independence Hall.* by Roland Smith** (series)

In this gripping thriller, teenagers Q (Quest) and Angela go on tour with married rockers Blaze and Roger and, while in Philadelphia, become submerged in a world of danger when they discover the identity of Angela's real mother, who is a former Secret Service agent.

***Life as We Knew It.* by Susan Beth Pfeffer**

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.

***Leviathan.* by Scott Westerfield** (series)

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.

***Reckless.* by Cornella Funke**

Jacob and Will Reckless have looked out for each other ever since their father disappeared, but when Jacob discovers a magical mirror that transports him to a warring world populated by witches, giants, and ogres, he keeps it to himself until Will follows him one day, with dire consequences.

***Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting.* by Jim Murphy**

Describes how, at Christmas, 1914, during World War I, in defiance of their officers' orders, a truce was declared by soldiers on opposing sides, who stopped fighting to engage in a spontaneous Christmas celebration with their "enemies."

***Fortune's Fool.* by Kathleen Karr**

In medieval Germany, fifteen-year-old Conrad, a court jester, and his beloved Christa, a servant girl, escape from a cruel master and journey through the countryside on a quest to find a kind lord who will give them sanctuary.

***Distasters: Natural and Man-Made Catastrophes Through the Centuries.* by Brenda Z. Guiberson**

A history of ten well-known disasters--from the great Chicago fire to Hurricane Katrina--explores the causes and effects of the devastation as well as the power of humankind to persevere in the face of adversity.

***Malice.* by Chris Wooding** (series)

Having read all about the sinister world in which the villainous Tall Jake resides, fans Luke, Seth, and Kady learn more about it than they ever wanted when they are suddenly pulled into the pages of their comic book and come face-to-face with Tall Jake himself!

***Super Human.* by Michael Carroll**

A ragtag group of young superheroes takes on a powerful warrior who is transported from 4,000 years in the past to enslave the modern world.

***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.* by Mark Twain**

Huckleberry Finn, an abused outcast, rafts with Jim, a runaway slave, down the Mississippi River, where they have a variety of experiences. (Parental Approval)

***Robinson Crusoe.* by Daniel Dafoe**

During one of his several adventurous voyages in the 1600's, an Englishman becomes the sole survivor of a shipwreck and lives for nearly thirty years on a deserted island.

***Dracula.* by Bram Stoker**

Presents the tale of a bizarre Carpathian count who drinks human blood to stay alive, and the Englishman who knows his secret.

***The Water Wars.* by Cameron Stracher**

In a world where water has become a precious resource, Vera and her brother befriend a boy who seems to have unlimited access to water and who suspiciously disappears, prompting a dangerous search challenged by pirates, a paramilitary group, and corporations.