

8th Grade Summer Reading

Congratulations! You are finally in Eighth Grade. We want to invite you to begin your last year at St. Patrick by enjoying your summer exercising, resting, and relaxing. As part of your intellectual exercise we are asking you to choose from this diverse collection of books those books you find most interesting and fun. Since you will be using mathletics.com to exercise your mind mathematically, the reading of any of these books will help you complement your learning by allowing you to reflect on meaningful human experiences.

We are requiring that you read at least 600 pages this summer, which means you will be reading at least two books, maybe three or four. You will be reading approximately 7 to 8 pages per day throughout the whole summer. **For each of the books you read, a book report must be completed which will be collected during the second week of school.** The book reports will be part of your grade for the first quarter and late work will not be accepted.

Choose at least one book from Group A. This group includes books for which you will be able to get AR points by taking the corresponding AR tests during the first two weeks of school and have them counted for AR points for the first quarter. **Choose one or two books from Group B** to complete your 600 pages.

Group A

Asimov, Isaac I, Robot – 272 pgs.
Meet Robbie, the extraordinary nanny, and other memorable robots.

Bradbury, Ray Fahrenheit 451 – 179 pgs.
Imagine what the world would be like if books were illegal, if houses were fireproof, and firefighters set fire to contraband books.

Choldenko, Gennifer Al Capone Does My Shirts – 228 pgs.
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.

Cabot, Meg Party Princess – 306 pgs.
In a series of humorous diary entries, fifteen-year-old Mia tries to figure out how to raise money for the bankrupt student government at her school while also worrying about how to become a “party girl.”

Colfer, Eoin Airman – 412 pgs.
In the late nineteenth century, when Conor Broekhart discovers a conspiracy to overthrow the king, he is branded a traitor, imprisoned, and forced to mine for diamonds under brutal conditions while he plans a daring escape from Little Saltee prison by way of a flying machine that he must design, build, and, hardest of all, trust to carry him to safety.

Cullen, Lynn I am Rembrandt’s Daughter – 307 pgs.
In Amsterdam in the mid-1600s, Cornelia’s life as the illegitimate child of renowned painter Rembrandt is marked by plague, poverty, and despair at ever earning her father’s love, until she sees hope for a better future in the eyes of a wealthy suitor.

Friesner, Esther Nobody’s Princess – 305 pgs.
Determined to fend for herself in a world where only men have real freedom, headstrong Helen, who will be called queen of Sparta and Helen of Troy one day, learns to fight, hunt, and ride horses while disguised as a boy, and goes on an adventure throughout the Mediterranean world.

Garland, Sherry Song for the Buffalo Boy – 249 pgs.
Shunned because of her mixed heritage and determined to avoid an arranged marriage, 17-year-old Loi runs away to Ho Chi Minh City in hopes that she and the boy she loves will be able to go to the U. S. to find her American father.

Hill, Lawrence Someone Knows My Name: A Novel – 486 pgs.
Dreaming of escaping her life of slavery in South Carolina and returning to her African home, slave Aminata Diallo is thrown into the chaos of the Revolutionary War, during which she helps create a list of black people who have been honored for their service to the king.

Juby, Susan Alice, I think – 290 pgs.
Fifteen-year-old Alice keeps a diary as she struggles to cope with the embarrassments and trials of family, dating, school, work, small town life, and a serious case of “outcastitis.”

Kadohata, Cynthia Kira-Kira – 244 pgs.
Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

Lawrence, Iain The Cannibals – 230 pgs.
Tom Tin and his friend Midgely – with assorted juvenile criminals— escape the ship taking them to serve their terms in Australia and head for a Pacific island, forgetting Tom’s father’s warnings about headhunters and cannibals.

McCaughrean, Geraldine Not the End of the World – 244 pgs.
Noah’s daughter, daughters-in-law, sons, wife, and the animals describe what it was like to be aboard the ark while they watched everyone around them drown.

Sachar, Louis Holes – 233 pgs.
An inmate in a juvenile detention center becomes suspicious when forced to dig a five-foot deep hole each day.

Wells, H. G. War of the Worlds 231 pgs.
Martians armed with death-rays invade the Earth and humans fight back to save their civilization.

Book Report

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Title: _____

2. Author: _____

3. Pages in book: _____

4. Publisher and copyright date: _____

5. List and describe at least four of the main characters in the book.

6. Describe your favorite part of the story in at least 25 words.

7. What was the message or theme of the book? What did you learn from the book? Write at least 25 words.

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