

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Summer Reading 2017



Summer reading for 7<sup>th</sup> grade includes reading three (3) novels: *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt, a novel from the attached suggesting reading list, and a novel of your choosing.

### Required Reading

*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

This novel will be discussed at the beginning of the school year, so it's suggested that you read it in August so it is fresh in your mind. No project is required this summer! You're encouraged to highlight and take notes in this book as you read. This will help you when it's discussed.

Create a reading log to document what you've read and have a parent sign it at the end of the summer. Any books read beyond the summer requirements should also be included on the log. **Please bring your log on the first day of school.**

Read, read, read and enjoy your summer.

Mrs. Odom  
7<sup>th</sup> grade English  
modom@stjohnsschool.org

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Suggested Reading List (you must choose one of these):

Alexander, Kwame. *The Crossover*. 2014.

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

Brande, Robin. *Fat Cat*. 2009.

Overweight teenage Catherine embarks on a high school science project in which she must emulate the ways of hominims, the earliest ancestors of human beings, by eating an all-natural diet and foregoing technology.

Caine, Rachel. *Ink and Bone*. 2015.

Ruthless and supremely powerful, the Great Library is now a presence in every major city, governing the flow of knowledge to the masses. Alchemy allows the Library to deliver the content of the greatest works of history instantly, but the personal ownership of books is expressly forbidden. When his friend inadvertently commits heresy by creating a device that could change the world, Jess discovers that those who control the Great Library believe that knowledge is more valuable than any human life--and soon both heretics and books will burn.

Cheng, Jack. *See You in the Cosmos*. 2017.

Eleven-year-old Alex Petroski, along with his dog, Carl Sagan, makes big discoveries about his family on a road trip and he records it all on a golden iPod he intends to launch into space.

DuPrau, Jeanne. *City of Ember*. 2003.

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.

Gangsei, Jan. *Zero Day*. 2016

Eight years after being kidnapped Addie Webster, now sixteen, resurfaces under mysterious circumstances, significantly changed, and her childhood best friend, Darrow Fergusson, is asked by a national security advisor to spy on her to uncover whether she is a threat to her father's Presidency or the nation.

Hoose, Phillip. *The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club*. 2015.

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

Khoury, Jessica. *Kalahari*. 2015.

Deep in the Kalahari Desert, a Corpus lab protects a dangerous secret. But what happens when that secret takes on a life of its own? When an educational safari goes wrong, five teens find themselves stranded in the Kalahari Desert without a guide.

Nielsen, Jennifer A. *A Night Divided*. 2015.

When the Berlin Wall went up, Gerta, her mother, and her brother Fritz were trapped on the eastern side where they were living, while her father, and her other brother Dominic were in the West. Four years later, now twelve, Gerta sees her father on a viewing platform on the western side and realizes he wants her to risk her life trying to tunnel to freedom.

Sepetys, Ruta. *Between Shades of Gray*. 2011.

In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands

like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. Based on the author's family, includes a historical note.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Lincoln's Grave Robbers*. 2012.

An account of how counterfeiter Benjamin Boyd's gang stole the body of Abraham Lincoln and demanded Boyd's release from jail and two hundred thousand dollars as ransom and the efforts of the Secret Service to recover the remains.

Shusterman, Neal. *Unwind*. 2007.

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.

Tolkein, J. R. R. *The Hobbit: Or, There and Back Again*. 1966.

Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to share in an adventure.

Welch, Jenna Evans. *Love & Gelato*. 2016.

After her mother dies, Lina travels to Italy where she discovers her mother's journal and sets off on an adventure to unearth her mother's secrets.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Brown Girl Dreaming*. 2014.

The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South.