

## St. John's Episcopal School

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading 2019

This summer you will read three (3) novels: the required reading novel, a novel from the suggested reading list, and 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 I suggest you read it in August so it is fresh in your mind. **Please answer the Required Reading Questions on the attached form and bring it 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 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):

Bell, Cece. ***El Deafo***. 2014.

A graphic novel memoir of author/illustrator Cece Bell who grew up hearing impaired.

Benjamin, Ali. ***The Thing About Jellyfish***. 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.

Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Al Capone Does My Shirts***. 2004.

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.

DiCamillo, Kate. ***Raymie Nightingale***. 2016.

Hoping that if she wins a local beauty pageant her father will come home, Raymie practices twirling a baton and performing good deeds as she is drawn into an unlikely friendship with a drama queen and a saboteur.

Ellis, Deborah. ***The Breadwinner***. 2000.

Because the Taliban rulers of Kabul, Afghanistan, impose strict limitations on women's freedom and behavior, eleven-year-old Parvana must disguise herself as a boy so that her family can survive after her father's arrest.

Gratz, Alan. ***Refugee***. 2017.

Although separated by continents and decades, Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl trying to escape the riots and unrest plaguing her country in 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015 whose homeland is torn apart by violence and destruction, embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together.

Hale, Shannon. ***Princess Academy***. 2005.

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

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.

Hunt, Lynda Mullaly. ***Shouting at the Rain***. 2019.

Delsie loves tracking the weather, living with her grandmother, and the support of friends and neighbors, but misses having a "regular family," especially after her best friend outgrows her.

Medina, Meg. ***Merci Suárez Changes Gears***. 2018.

Merci Suarez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different. For starters, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because

she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. They don't have a big house or a fancy boat, and they have to do extra community service to make up for their free tuition. So when bossy Edna Santos sets her sights on the new boy who happens to be Merci's school-assigned Sunshine Buddy, Merci becomes the target of Edna's jealousy. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately -- forgetting important things, falling from his bike, and getting angry over nothing. No one in her family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling all on her own at school.

Nielsen, Jennifer A. ***Resistance***. 2018.

In 1942 sixteen-year-old Chaya Lindner is a Jewish girl living in Nazi-occupied Poland, a courier who smuggles food and documents to the isolated Jewish ghettos in southern Poland, depending on her forged papers and "Aryan" features--but when a mission goes wrong and many of her colleagues are arrested she finds herself on a journey to Warsaw, where an uprising is in the works.

Reynolds, Jason. ***Ghost***. 2016.

Running. That's all Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons—it all started with running away from his father, who, when Ghost was a very little boy, chased him and his mother through their apartment, then down the street, with a loaded gun, aiming to kill. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems—and running away from them—until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who sees something in Ghost: crazy natural talent. If Ghost can stay on track, literally and figuratively, he could be the best sprinter in the city. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed, or will his past finally catch up to him?

Saeed, Aisha. ***Amal Unbound***. 2018.

Life is quiet and ordinary in Amal's Pakistani village, but she had no complaints, and besides, she's busy pursuing her dream of becoming a teacher one day. Her dreams are temporarily dashed when--as the eldest daughter--she must stay home from school to take care of her siblings. Amal is upset, but she doesn't lose hope and finds ways to continue learning. Then the unimaginable happens--after an accidental run-in with the son of her village's corrupt landlord, Amal must work as his family's servant to pay off her own family's debt.

Life at the opulent Khan estate is full of heartbreak and struggle for Amal--especially when she inadvertently makes an enemy of a girl named Nabila. Most troubling, though, is Amal's growing awareness of the Khans' nefarious dealings. When it becomes clear just how far they

will go to protect their interests, Amal realizes she will have to find a way to work with others if they are ever to exact change in a cruel status quo, and if Amal is ever to achieve her dreams.

Shusterman, Neal. *Everlost*. 2006.

When Nick and Allie are killed in a car crash, they end up in Everlost, or limbo for lost souls, where, although Nick is satisfied, Allie will stop at nothing--even skinjacking--to break free.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Harbor Me*. 2018.

It all starts when six kids have to meet for a weekly chat--by themselves, with no adults to listen in. There, in the room they soon dub the ARTT Room (short for "A Room to Talk"), they discover it's safe to talk about what's bothering them--everything from Esteban's father's deportation and Haley's father's incarceration to Amari's fears of racial profiling and Ashton's adjustment to his changing family fortunes. When the six are together, they can express the feelings and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world. And together, they can grow braver and more ready for the rest of their lives.

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.**

