

Summer Reading 2021 – Incoming 8th Grade Students

This summer, you are required **to read a minimum of three books**.

You are free to choose any three books you like, and each must be a minimum of 200 pages. You are invited and strongly encouraged to read additional books if you would like. Consider this a summer reading challenge!

Please keep a running log of the books you read, including a parent/guardian signature to verify completion of each book. Bring the reading log to English class on the first day of school and turn it in to your teacher. Upon your return to school, you will be assessed on one of your summer reading books. Assessments may be in written or discussion format.

We're fortunate that most local libraries have reopened for limited in-person browsing, but please check their websites to confirm visiting hours. If those aren't convenient, all Marin libraries offer extensive digital collections for you to access remotely. Here are the e-collections available through the San Anselmo Library, <https://www.townofsananselmo.org/642/E-Library>.

With so many books to choose from, the recommendations from National Public Radio may help you narrow your choices: <https://apps.npr.org/best-books/#tags=kids'+books&view=covers&year=2020>. And finally, here are favorites from our librarian, Ms. Strand. They're all award winners; click on the titles to get a plot summary: New Kid, American Born Chinese, Other Words for Home, Hello, Universe, Merci Saurez Changes Gears, and Stargazing.

We hope that you'll enjoy many books of your own choosing this summer. Read your favorite genres, but explore new ones too:

Modern fantasy	Science Fiction	Folklore
Biography	Non-Fiction: Information	Plays
Poetry	Mystery/Suspense	Historical Fiction
Classics	Adventure	Contemporary Realistic Fiction

Policy on re-reading books:

Good readers often re-read books, especially those they particularly enjoyed or those that were challenging. You are welcome to choose, as one of your three summer books, a book that you have previously read. However, please do not re-read a book you have read within the past year as part of your summer requirement.

Do not read the following selections as they will be (or have been) read in your Middle School English classes.

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
The Outsiders, by S.E. Hinton

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
House on Mango Street, by Sandra Cisneros

