

## 2022 Lower Campus Summer Reading



Summer vacation is the perfect time for reinforcing the joy of reading! While we certainly expect children to enjoy themselves and relax during the summer months, it is also imperative that they keep their minds engaged and develop a love of independent reading. Completing the recommended and required 2022 Summer Reading will enhance your child's experience and provide background for the transition to classes in the fall. **The books listed below are required for students entering grades 3-8**; the books listed for grades PK-2 are recommended. Middle School students entering grades 6-8 will complete assignments based on the summer reading. Those assignments will be delivered in the first weeks of school, so it is important that students complete their required reading. It should be possible to obtain inexpensive copies of these books at Barnes & Noble, or online at Amazon.com or other websites.

### **Grades 3-8 Summer Reading:**

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| Grade 8 | <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell<br><b><u>and one book from the suggested reading list below</u></b>   |
| Grade 7 | <i>The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien   |
| Grade 6 | <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen<br><b><u>and</u> <i>Percy Jackson and The Olympians, Book I, the Lightning Thief</i></b><br>by Rick Riordan  |
| Grade 5 | Choose <u>one</u> of the following:<br><i>A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple, Mayflower, 1620</i> by Kathryn Lasky<br><i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh</i> by Robert C. O'Brien<br><i>The Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson</i> by Bette Bao Lord |
| Grade 4 | <i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i> by Kate DiCamillo  |
| Grade 3 | <i>Frindle</i> by Andrew Clements   |

### **PK-2 Summer Reading:**

For our youngest students, we have created a list of books that your children might enjoy over the summer. Here are a few suggestions to help enhance the reading experience: Allow your child to hold the book and turn the pages. Go over the title and author before reading. Let your child look through the pictures and make predictions about the story. Talk about the story as you read. Share different parts of the story after you finish reading. Most of all, enjoy the stories and have fun! You can find additional titles on the website for the [Association for Library Service to Children](#), a division of the American Library Association.

***Big Feelings*** by Alexandra Penfold

***Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*** by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault

***Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type*** by Doreen Cronin

***Curious George*** by H.A. Rey

***Danny and the Dinosaur*** by Syd Hoff

***We Are in a Book!*** by Mo Willems

***Frog and Toad Are Friends*** by Arnold Lobel

***The Very Hungry Caterpillar*** by Eric Carle

***How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?*** by Jane Yolen

***I Like Myself*** by Karen Beaumont

***If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*** by Laura J. Numeroff

***Martha Speaks*** by Susan Meddaugh

***My Father's Dragon*** by Ruth Chrisman Gannett

***Owen*** by Kevin Henkes

***Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes*** by Eric Litwin

***Strega Nona*** by Tomie de Paola

***Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*** by William Steig

***Where the Wild Things Are*** by Maurice Sendak

***Children Make Terrible Pets*** by Peter Brown

***Interrupting Chicken*** by David Ezra Stein

***Press Here*** by Herve Tullet

## 8th-Grade Summer Reading Selected List

Please choose one of the books from this list to read over the summer and be prepared to talk and/or write about it at the beginning of the school year:

### Nonfiction:

***Stamped: Racism, Anti Racism, and You*** by Jason Reynolds, Ibram X. Kendi

The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. *Stamped* reveals the history of racist ideas in America and inspires hope for an antiracist future. *Stamped* takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers. It also proves that while racist ideas have always been easy to fabricate and distribute, they can also be discredited. Through a gripping, fast-paced, and energizing narrative, Jason Reynolds shines a light on the many insidious forms of racist ideas--and on ways readers can identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their daily lives.

***The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime That Changed Their Lives*** by Dashka Slater

If it weren't for the 57 bus, Sasha and Richard never would have met. Both were high school students from Oakland, California, one of the most diverse cities in the country, but they inhabited different worlds. Sasha, a white teen, lived in the middle-class foothills and attended a small private school. Richard, a black teen, lived in the crime-plagued flatlands and attended a large public one. Each day, their paths overlapped for a mere eight minutes. But one afternoon on the bus ride home from school, a single reckless act left Sasha severely burned, and Richard charged with two hate crimes and facing life imprisonment. The case garnered international attention, thrusting both teenagers into the spotlight.

***Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—The World's Most Dangerous Weapon*** by Steve Sheinkin

In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery: When placed next to radioactive material, a Uranium atom split in two. That simple discovery launched a scientific race that spanned three continents. This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the story of the atomic bomb.

***Hidden Figures: Young Readers Edition*** by Margot Lee Shetterly

The book pays homage to four trailblazing African American human computers—Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson and Christine Darden—who served as an integral part of NASA/NACA at the height of the Space Race between America and Russia.

***Just Mercy (Adapted for Young Adults): A True Story of the Fight for Justice*** by Bryan Stevenson

In this very personal work—adapted from the original #1 bestseller – acclaimed lawyer and social justice advocate Bryan Stevenson offers a glimpse into the lives of the wrongfully imprisoned and his efforts to fight for their freedom. Stevenson's story is one of working to protect basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society – the poor, the wrongly convicted, and those whose lives have been marked by discrimination and marginalization. Through this adaptation, young people of today will find themselves called to action and compassion in the pursuit of justice.

### Fiction:

***Nocturna*** by Maya Motayne

In a Latinx inspired fantasy world, Finn is a thief with the magical ability to change her appearance and Alfie is a prince with magical powers of his own. Their paths cross when Alfie unleashes a powerful dark magic in the hopes of bringing back his dead older brother. Finn just happens to be in the palace, attempting to steal a mystical cloak of invisibility. Their pasts and personalities couldn't be more different. But they have to work together, or their world will be destroyed forever.

***Tristan Strong Punches A Hole In The Sky*** by Kwame Mbalia

Eighth graders who love mythology and Rick Riordan books will devour this new fantasy series. While spending the summer at his grandparents' farm in Alabama, Tristan accidentally opens—punches—a portal to the magical and scary world of MidPass. MidPass weaves together African American and West African gods. To return home, Tristan must convince the trickster god Anansi to seal the hole he created in the sky. But first, Anansi asks for a dangerous favor in return.

***Mechanica*** by Betsy Cornwell

Steampunk, science-forward Cinderella retelling: Nic is called Mechanica by her cruel stepsisters. They think it's an insult, but being an inventor is one of her proudest accomplishments. She's created impressive technology to do all the chores her stepmother pushes on her. And instead of a ball, Nic is preparing for the royal science exposition in hopes of finding funders to gain her independence. There is a prince. He is dreamy. But he is also not the only way for Nic to get the future she dreams of for herself.

***Akata Witch*** by Nnedi Okorafor

Sunny was born in New York but now lives in Alba, Nigeria. This and the fact that she's albino make her feel like an outsider. But when she's 12, she makes friends with Orlu and Chichi and is thrust into the magical world of the Leopard People. In this world, she learns how to perform her own magic and harness her power. She must keep it a secret from her family, but also gives her a sense of belonging. But the stakes are raised when Sunny and her friends are tasked with finding Black Hat Otokoto, a Leopard man responsible for kidnapping and hurting many children.

***The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*** by Michael Scott

Nicholas Flamel is the greatest Alchemyst to ever live. The records show that he died in 1418, but what if he's actually been making the elixir of life for centuries? The secrets to eternal life are hidden within the book he protects—the Book of Abraham the Mage. It's the most powerful book that has ever existed, and in the wrong hands, it will destroy the world. And that's exactly what Dr. John Dee plans to do when he steals it. There is one hope. If the prophecy is true, Sophie and Josh Newman have the power to save everyone. Now they just have to learn to use it.

***Brown Girl Dreaming*** by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

***Allies*** by Alan Gratz

Alan Gratz, bestselling author of *Refugee*, weaves a stunning array of voices and stories into an epic tale of teamwork in the face of tyranny – and how just one day can change the world. June 6, 1944: The Nazis are terrorizing Europe, on their evil quest to conquer the world. The only way to stop them? The biggest, most top-secret operation ever, with the Allied nations coming together to storm German-occupied France. Welcome to D-Day. Dee, a young U.S. soldier, is on a boat racing toward the French coast. And Dee – along with his brothers-in-arms – is terrified. He feels the weight of World War II on his shoulders. But Dee is not alone. Behind enemy lines in France, a girl named Samira works as a spy, trying to sabotage the German army. Meanwhile, paratrooper James leaps from his plane to join a daring midnight raid. And in the thick of battle, Henry, a medic, searches for lives to save. In a breathtaking race against time, they all must fight to complete their high-stakes missions. But with betrayals and deadly risks at every turn, can the Allies do what it takes to win?

***Class Act (graphic novel)*** by Jerry Craft

Eighth grader Drew Ellis is no stranger to the saying “You have to work twice as hard to be just as good.” His grandmother has reminded him his entire life. But what if he works ten times as hard and still isn’t afforded the same opportunities that his privileged classmates at the Riverdale Academy Day School take for granted? To make matters worse, Drew begins to feel as if his good friend Liam might be one of those privileged kids. He wants to pretend like everything is fine, but it’s hard not to withdraw, and even their mutual friend Jordan doesn’t know how to keep the group together. As the pressures mount, will Drew find a way to bridge the divide so he and his friends can truly accept each other? And most importantly, will he finally be able to accept himself?

***When Stars Are Scattered (graphic novel)*** by Victoria Jamieson

Omar and his younger brother, Hassan, have spent most of their lives in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. Life is hard there: never enough food, achingly dull, and without access to the medical care Omar knows his nonverbal brother needs. So when Omar has the opportunity to go to school, he knows it might be a chance to change their future...but it would also mean leaving his brother, the only family member he has left, every day. Heartbreak, hope, and gentle humor exist together in this graphic novel about a childhood spent waiting, and a young man who is able to create a sense of family and home in the most difficult of settings. It’s an intimate, important, unforgettable look at the day-to-day life of a refugee, as told to *New York Times* Bestselling author/artist Victoria Jamieson by Omar Mohamed, the Somali man who lived the story.