



MONTCLAIR KIMBERLEY ACADEMY

Grade 8 Summer Reading

May 2019

Dear Entering 8th Graders,

Welcome to the community of independent readers in the Upper House of MKA's Middle School. We are excited that you will be joining us next year and look forward to having you in our classes. As you know, we want you to read over the summer, because reading requires constant practice. Here are the assignments that you **must** do before September, but we encourage you to read as many books as you like for your own pleasure.

Reading: The two required summer books (see 1. & 2. below) will be discussed in September in your English classroom.

1. Choose one book from the Middle School Library's Summer Choices pamphlet. (You may also choose a comparable book that you want to read that's not on the list.)
2. Choose one book from the following list:
 - *If You Come Softly* – Jacqueline Woodson
 - *The Secret Life of Bees* - Sue Monk Kidd
 - *The Book Thief* - Marcus Zusak
 - *The Hate U Give* - Angie Thomas

This required summer book will be assessed in September through individual reading conferences with your teacher, small group discussion in your classroom, or in-class writing evaluations. As you read this book, please think of the main characters and how they change; also think about some big ideas or themes that the writer is trying to convey.

For all of your independent reading choices, make sure to choose books that you think you will like and that are at a comfortable reading level. The *Summer Choices* brochure enclosed provides suggestions. We look forward to talking with you about all of your summer books. Happy reading!

Sincerely,

The Upper House English Department