



## St. David's Middle School

### Summer Reading 2021

Dear St. David's Students and Families:

St. David's Summer Reading Program is an important component of our academic curriculum. The books on the Middle School list have been selected to enhance the upcoming year's studies. Students should note the **requirements** for their grade and for the language course for which they are registered.

The **suggested** lists are provided as guides to additional reading choices over the summer. Students might choose to read multiple works of a favorite author or series, try a new genre, or explore a topic of interest in history or science, for example.

The authors of *Books That Build Character* tell us that "*The voyage from childhood to responsible adulthood is long, difficult, and stormy. Good stories provide compass, chart, and bearings for the journey.*" It is our hope that among the selections on this summer's reading list and in their own reading choices, students will discover books that will entertain, challenge, and enrich their lives.

Enjoy your readings and have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely yours,  
Ginny Cline, Director of Libraries



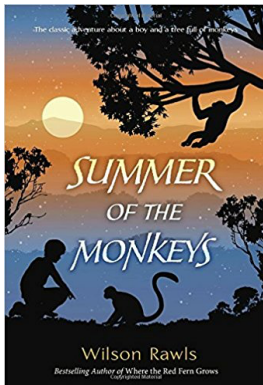
**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 5th Grade**

**All fifth-grade students are asked to read the following required book over the summer and are highly encouraged to read a second book from the suggested reading below. Students should come to class in the fall prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.**

**Required: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls

ISBN: 9780440415800 (Please use this edition.)



Sometimes the most cherished books are those that we discover in a forgotten corner of a bookshelf. Such a rare find is *Summer of the Monkeys*, written forty years ago. You will experience many emotions while reading this novel. Look for inspirational examples within the story that portray such character traits as kindness, respectfulness, determination, responsibility, and integrity while analyzing the various elements of literature, such as character development, conflict, and theme. Journey back in time to the late 1800's when life was simple, but choices could be difficult. Think of ways you can begin 5<sup>th</sup> grade with the life lessons you learn from Jay Berry, Grandpa, Daisy, and even "the monkeys." Get ready for engaging discussions about this memorable book when we meet in the fall.



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**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 5th Grade**

**Suggested Reading: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**Fiction**

**Action/Adventure**

*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein (and others in the series)

Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous game maker Luigi Lemoncello), but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape.

*Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo (Children's Book Award 2000)

When Michael is swept off his family's yacht, he washes up on a desert island, where he struggles to survive – until he finds he is not alone.

*Old Yeller* by Fred Gipson (Newbery Honor Award 1957)

When his father sets out on a cattle drive for the summer, fourteen-year-old Travis is left to take care of things on the farm with the help of the big yellow dog who comes to be his best friend.

*Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls

A powerful story about a boy and his two hunting dogs in the hills of the Ozarks. Billy learns, through a difficult lesson, that hope can come out of despair.

*Wildfire: A Novel* by Rodman Philbrick

A story of heart-stopping action as Sam and his friend Delphy run for their lives, fighting to survive in the midst of a fast-moving wildfire.

**Fantasy and Fable**

*Aesop's Fables* by Jerry Pinkney (or other editions for children)

A collection of tales from the Greek storyteller, Aesop.

*Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

A little girl falls down a rabbit hole and discovers a world of nonsensical and amusing characters.

*The Ch'i-lin Purse: A Collection of Ancient Chinese Stories* retold by Linda Fang

The author presents nine stories based upon some of her favorite ancient Chinese novels and operas. Great tie-in with *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* on this list.

The Chronicles of Narnia series by C.S. Lewis

Four children find themselves in the midst of a battle between good and evil in another world, trying to help the lion Aslan save Narnia from the White Witch.

*D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths* by Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire

Illustrated retellings of the myths about the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece.



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*Little Pilgrim's Progress* (John Bunyan) simplified edition by Helen L. Taylor

An adventure story and a profound allegory of the Christian journey through life.

*Mañanaland* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Twelve-year-old Max embarks on a dangerous journey to guide a young asylum seeker to safety. Does he have the courage to succeed, and is the vision true?

*The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster

Milo takes a trip through the Phantom Tollbooth to the Lands Beyond where he meets enchanting characters who teach him the importance of words, numbers, ideas, creativity, and enthusiasm for life.

*The Princess and the Goblin* by George MacDonald

Princess Irene and her friend Curdie must outwit the goblins who live in caves beneath the royal castle. Classic Victorian fairy tale by the author who influenced J. R. R. Tolkien, C. S. Lewis, and others.

*Serafina and the Black Cloak* by Robert Beatty (and others in the series)

It's 1899, and a brave and unusual girl named Serafina lives secretly in the basement of the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C. When children at the estate start disappearing, Serafina and the estate owner's young nephew must work together to solve a dangerous mystery.

*Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

The discovery of a magic spring that allows one to live forever complicates life for those who have discovered it.

*The Twenty-One Balloons* by William Pene Du Bois (Newbery Medal Winner 1948)

When Professor Sherman is found floating in the Atlantic among the wreckage of twenty hot-air balloons, the world is eager to know what happened.

*The Tales of Greek Heroes* by Roger Lancelyn Green

This is the book that inspired author Rick Riordan. It retells nineteen heroic Greek myths at just the right level for middle school students.

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin (Newbery Honor Book 2010)

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest. Great tie-in with *Ch'i-lin Purse: A Collection of Ancient Chinese Stories* on this list.

**General Fiction**

*Beautiful Blue World* by Suzanne La Fleur

The land of Sofarende is at war, and the army is recruiting children, paying families well for their service. Best friends Megs and Mathilde must make a decision that will change them forever.

*Defiance* by Valerie Hobbs

While vacationing in the country, eleven-year-old Toby, a cancer patient, learns some important lessons about living and dying from an elderly poet and her cow.



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*A Dog's Life* by Ann M. Martin

A stray puppy tells her life story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.

*The Extra Yard* by Mike Lupica (and others by Lupica)

Teddy's dream for success on the travel football team suffers a setback when his long-lost father comes back in town.

*Firegirl* by Tony Abbott

A middle school boy's life is changed when a girl disfigured by burns attends his school. This is a touching story of friendship.

*Ghost* by Jason Reynolds (National Book Award Finalist 2016) (and series)

When Castle "Ghost" Crenshaw gets recruited by a local track coach for a championship team, they strike a deal: if Ghost can stop getting into fights at school, he can compete with the team. Will Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who blew his own shot at success, keep Ghost from making the same mistakes?

*Heidi* by Johanna Spyri

A classic, this is the story of a young girl from the Swiss Alps whose life takes a dramatic turn when she must go to live in the city, leaving behind her grandfather and the mountains she loves.

*Listening for Lions* by Gloria Whelan

Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1919, thirteen-year-old Rachel travels to England, where she dreams of returning to Africa to rebuild her parents' mission hospital.

*A Long Walk to Water (Based on a True Story)* by Linda Sue Park

The harrowing but ultimately hopeful story of two eleven-year olds from Sudan, a girl who walks eight hours a day for water, and a boy who becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan.

*New Kid* by Jerry Craft (Newbery Award 2020 and Coretta Scott King Award 2020)

In this graphic novel, seventh grader Jordan, a person of color, lives in two worlds: his diverse neighborhood and community, and school days in an elite, mostly white private school. Can he find a way to fit in both worlds?

*An Old-Fashioned Girl* by Louisa May Alcott (and others by Alcott)

Polly's friendship with the wealthy Shaws of Boston helps them to build a new life and teaches her the truth about the relationship between happiness and riches.

*Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga (Newbery Honor 2020)

Jude and her mother are sent to live with relatives in America, leaving her brother and father behind in Syria. Life in the U.S. is different from what she expected, but Jude finds friends and even considers trying out for the school musical.



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*Pay Attention, Carter Jones* by Gary D. Schmidt

Sixth-grader Carter must adjust to the presence in his home of a wise and witty cricket-loving British butler who is determined to help him become a gentleman.

*The Penderwicks* by Jeanne Birdsall (National Book Award Winner 2005) (and others in the series)

Vacationing with their father on an estate in the Berkshire Mountains, 4 sisters share adventures with the son of the snobby estate owner. Nostalgic, humorous, witty, and fun, this series is a perfect summer read.

*Rain Reign* by Ann Martin

Struggling with Asperger's syndrome, Rose shares a bond with her beloved dog, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels.

*The Red Pencil* by Andrea Davis Pinkney

After militants attack her tribal village, a young Sudanese girl must flee to safety at a refugee camp, where she finds hope and the chance to pursue an education. Powerful novel written in verse.

*The Thing about Luck* by Cynthia Kadohata (National Book Award Winner 2013)

When an emergency takes her parents to Japan, Summer is left to care for her little brother and help her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.

*Treasures of the Snow* by Patricia St. John

Annette is angry and filled with hatred when Lucien gets back at her by threatening the most precious thing in the world to her. A classic, uplifting story of the healing power of repentance and forgiveness.

*The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle* by Leslie Connor (Schneider Family Book Award Winner 2019)

Mason and Calvin form an unlikely alliance as big-hearted Mason deals with the mysterious death of a friend. Heartwarming story of loss and friendship.

*Wonderstruck* by Brian Selznick (Schneider Family Book Award 2012)

Ben loses his mother and his hearing and decides to leave his home to seek the father he has never known. Rose is also compelled to search for what is missing in her life. Ben's story is told in words, Rose's in pictures.

**Historical Fiction**

*Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery (Anne of Green Gables series)

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm, and she proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.



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*Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk (Scott O'Dell Award Winner 2018)

Crow, rescued as an infant from the sea, is haunted by the mystery of her own history. A fire on a nearby island prompts her to search for answers, discovering along the way the true meaning of family.

*Blue* by Joyce Moyer Hostetter

Ann Fay Honeycutt becomes the “man” of the house at age thirteen after her father leaves to fight in World War II. When a polio epidemic strikes, Ann faces the most devastating challenge of her life. Set in N.C.

*The Book of Boy* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (Newbery Honor Book 2019)

In 1350, a strange orphan boy joins a pilgrim on a dangerous search for seven relics of Saint Peter. Medieval tale of good vs. evil, with a dash of the miraculous.

*Bronze and Sunflower* by Cao Wenxuan

Set in China during the Cultural Revolution, this lovely book by a renowned Chinese author tells the story of two lonely children from different backgrounds who find friendship and family.

*The Dreamer* by Pam Munoz Ryan and Peter Sis (Pura Belpré Award Winner 2011)

A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, a painfully shy child who became one of the most widely read poets in the world.

*Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis (Coretta Scott King Award 2008)

Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first freeborn child in Buxton, Canada, in 1859, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice a lying preacher.

*Esperanza Rising* by Pam M. Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California.

*A Gathering of Days* by Joan W. Blos (Newbery Medal Winner 1980; National Book Award 1980)

Catherine's mother has died following the birth of an infant son, and when her father decides to remarry, Catherine faces painful changes.

*Heart of a Samurai* by Margi Preus (Newbery Honor Book 2011)

In 1841, after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions as castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

*Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell (Newbery Medal Winner 1961)

Records the courage and self-reliance of an Indian girl who lived alone for eighteen years on an isolated island off the California coast.

*Porcupine Year* by Louise Erdrich (sequel to *The Birchbark House* and *The Game of Silence*)

Twelve-year-old Omakayas, an Ojibwe girl, draws strength from the land and spirits as she and her family endure numerous hardships in their search for a new home in northern Minnesota in 1852.





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*Refugee* by Alan Gratz (Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner 2018)

Follow the harrowing fictional journeys and amazing connections of Josef, living in Nazi Germany in the 1930's; Isobel, fleeing Cuba in 1994; and Mahmoud, a contemporary Syrian boy whose homeland is torn apart by violence.

*Rifles for Watie* by Harold Keith (Newbery Medal Winner 1958)

Just sixteen, Jefferson Davis Bussey can't wait to leave his Kansas farm and defend the Union against Colonel Watie, leader of the dreaded Cherokee Indian rebels. But he soon learns that there's more to war than honor and glory.

*A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park (Newbery Medal Winner 2002)

Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge near a potters' village, and longs to learn how to make delicate celadon ceramics.

*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon Draper

When a burning cross, set by the Klan, causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.

Trailblazer Books series by Dave and Neta Jackson

A series of action-packed historical fiction novels introducing great real-life Christian heroes. Each book portrays a significant period in a hero or heroine's life and ministry.

*War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo

Joey the horse recalls his experiences growing up on an English farm, his struggle for survival as a cavalry horse during World War I, and his reunion with his beloved master.

*The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Newbery Honor Book 2016)

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, escaping a life with an abusive mother.

*Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk (Newbery Honor Book 2017)

Annabelle lives a quiet life in her small town until a new student arrives in class, who reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative. When reclusive World War I vet Toby becomes the target of her attacks, Annabelle determines to find the courage to stand as a lone voice of justice.

**Science Fiction**

*Found* by Margaret Peterson Haddix (Missing series)

When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were found on a plane full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel.





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*Last Day on Mars* by Kevin Emerson

While waiting to leave Mars before it burns up, Liam and Phoebe discover some facts about time and space and realize that the human race is just one of the races trying to survive in space.

*The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trent Lee Steward (and others in the series)

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle (Time quintet series) (Newbery Medal Winner 1963)

Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time to find Meg's father, who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

**Nonfiction**

**Biography/Autobiography**

*Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell* by Tom L. Matthews

This biography, with photographs and quotes from Bell himself, follows the inventor from his childhood in Scotland through his efforts to come up with ideas that would improve people's lives.

*The Boy on the Wooden Box* by Leon Leyson (Sydney Taylor Book Award Honor 2014)

In the only memoir of a former Schindler's list child, the author tells the unthinkable story of his experiences in the Krakow ghetto and concentration camp.

*The Boy Who Fell off the Mayflower* by Patrick James Lynch

Illustrated account of the life of John Howland and his perilous journey to New England.

*The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science* by Joyce Sidman (Sibert Medal Winner 2019)

Visual biography of the woman who discovered the scientific truth about metamorphosis as she pursued her passion for entomology and art.

*Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Beecher Preachers* by Jean Fritz

The story of Harriet Beecher Stowe, who opposed slavery so passionately that she decided to write novels about it and became the most famous of a renowned family.

*Hudson Taylor: Deep in the Heart of China* by Janet & Geoff Benge (and others in the series *Christian Heroes: Then and Now*)

A biography of the late nineteenth-century English missionary to China, Hudson Taylor. This series tells about the powerful lives of Christians who have shaped



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**Rising 5th Grade**

history, giving the reader a chance to see how God works through the lives of His followers.

*Leon's Story* by Leon Walter Tillage

The son of a North Carolina sharecropper recalls the hard times faced by his family and other African Americans in the first half of the twentieth century and the changes that the Civil Rights Movement helped bring about.

*Through My Eyes: A Quarterback's Journey (Young Readers Edition)* by Tim Tebow

NFL quarterback Tebow gives a behind-the-scenes look at his life on and off the field, as he shares how faith, family values, and determination have molded him into the person and athlete he is today.

**General Nonfiction**

*Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun* by Rhoda Blumberg (Newbery Honor Book 1986)

Details one of history's most significant diplomatic achievements, when Commodore Perry helped open Japan's closed society to world trade in the 1850s.

*Dr. Jenner and the Speckled Monster: The Search for the Smallpox Vaccine* by Albert Marrin

Chronicles Dr. Edward Jenner's efforts to discover a vaccine for the smallpox virus and explains how his discovery impacted the world.

*Girls Who Looked under Rocks: The Lives of Six Pioneering Naturalists* by Jeannine Atkins

Contains profiles of six girls who displayed an early interest in nature, and who grew up to be award-winning scientists and writers.

*Hidden Figures (Young Reader's Edition)* by Margot Lee Shetterly

This book brings to life the true stories of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, four African-American women who lived through the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the movement for gender equality, and whose work forever changed the face of NASA.

*Quiet Power: The Secret Strengths of Introverts (Kids Edition)* by Susan Cain

An adaptation of the authors' best-selling book, *Quiet: The Power of Introverts In a World That Can't Stop Talking*, this book offers tips and reassurance for young people who tend to be more introverted.



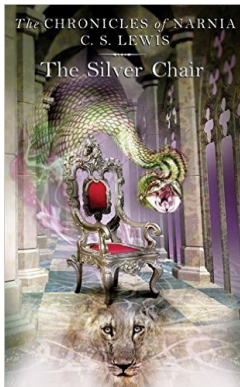
**St. David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 6th Grade**

**All sixth-grade students are asked to read the following required book over the summer and are highly encouraged to read a second book from the suggested reading below. Students should come to class in the fall prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.**

**Required: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*The Silver Chair* by C. S. Lewis

ISBN: 9780064471091 (Please use this edition.)



*The Silver Chair* is the fourth book of C.S. Lewis' well-beloved series, *The Chronicles of Narnia*. In the story, Eustace Scrubb and his classmate, Jill Pole, embark at Aslan's bidding on a daring adventure into the Underland to rescue a captive prince. In the midst of a world of enchantment, blinding snowstorms, dangerous giants, and deepest darkness, the friends are faced with an evil more exquisite and lethal than they ever could have imagined. You will find Lewis' masterpiece to be a gripping summer read that will naturally launch us into important discussions about the nature of good and evil as well as the formative elements of the narrative when we meet as a class in the fall.



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**Rising 6th Grade**

**Suggested Reading: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**Fiction**

**Action/Adventure**

*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein (and others in the series)

Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous game maker Luigi Lemoncello), but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape.

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When his father sets out on a cattle drive for the summer, fourteen-year-old Travis is left to take care of things on the farm with the help of the big yellow dog who comes to be his best friend.

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A powerful story about a boy and his two hunting dogs in the hills of the Ozarks. Billy learns, through a difficult lesson, that hope can come out of despair.

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A story of heart-stopping action as Sam and his friend Delphy run for their lives, fighting to survive in the midst of a fast-moving wildfire.

**Fantasy and Fable**

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Greece.

*Little Pilgrim's Progress* (John Bunyan) simplified edition by Helen L. Taylor

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Twelve-year-old Max embarks on a dangerous journey to guide a young asylum seeker to safety. Does he have the courage to succeed, and is the vision true?

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When an emergency takes her parents to Japan, Summer is left to care for her little brother and help her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.

*Treasures of the Snow* by Patricia St. John

Annette is angry and filled with hatred when Lucien gets back at her by threatening the most precious thing in the world to her. A classic, uplifting story of the healing power of repentance and forgiveness.

*The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle* by Leslie Connor (Schneider Family Book Award Winner 2019)

Mason and Calvin form an unlikely alliance as big-hearted Mason deals with the mysterious death of a friend. Heartwarming story of loss and friendship.

*Wonderstruck* by Brian Selznick (Schneider Family Book Award 2012)

Ben loses his mother and his hearing and decides to leave his home to seek the father he has never known. Rose is also compelled to search for what is missing in her life. Ben's story is told in words, Rose's in pictures.

**Historical Fiction**





**St. David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 6th Grade**

*Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery (Anne of Green Gables series)

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm, and she proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

*Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk (Scott O'Dell Award Winner 2018)

Crow, rescued as an infant from the sea, is haunted by the mystery of her own history. A fire on a nearby island prompts her to search for answers, discovering along the way the true meaning of family.

*Blue* by Joyce Moyer Hostetter

Ann Fay Honeycutt becomes the “man” of the house at age thirteen after her father leaves to fight in World War II. When a polio epidemic strikes, Ann faces the most devastating challenge of her life. Set in N.C.

*The Book of Boy* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (Newbery Honor Book 2019)

In 1350, a strange orphan boy joins a pilgrim on a dangerous search for seven relics of Saint Peter. Medieval tale of good vs. evil, with a dash of the miraculous.

*Bronze and Sunflower* by Cao Wenxuan

Set in China during the Cultural Revolution, this lovely book by a renowned Chinese author tells the story of two lonely children from different backgrounds who find friendship and family.

*The Dreamer* by Pam Munoz Ryan and Peter Sis (Pura Belpre Award Winner 2011)

A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, a painfully shy child who became one of the most widely read poets in the world.

*Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis (Coretta Scott King Award 2008)

Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first freeborn child in Buxton, Canada, in 1859, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice a lying preacher.

*Esperanza Rising* by Pam M. Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California.

*A Gathering of Days* by Joan W. Blos (Newbery Medal Winner 1980; National Book Award 1980)

Catherine's mother has died following the birth of an infant son, and when her father decides to remarry, Catherine faces painful changes.

*Heart of a Samurai* by Margi Preus (Newbery Honor Book 2011)

In 1841, after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions as castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

*Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell (Newbery Medal Winner 1961)

Records the courage and self-reliance of an Indian girl who lived alone for eighteen years on an isolated island off the California coast.



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**Rising 6th Grade**

*Porcupine Year* by Louise Erdrich (sequel to *The Birchbark House* and *The Game of Silence*)

Twelve-year-old Omakayas, an Ojibwe girl, draws strength from the land and spirits as she and her family endure numerous hardships in their search for a new home in northern Minnesota in 1852.

*Refugee* by Alan Gratz (Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner 2018)

Follow the harrowing fictional journeys and amazing connections of Josef, living in Nazi Germany in the 1930's; Isobel, fleeing Cuba in 1994; and Mahmoud, a contemporary Syrian boy whose homeland is torn apart by violence.

*Rifles for Watie* by Harold Keith (Newbery Medal Winner 1958)

Just sixteen, Jefferson Davis Bussey can't wait to leave his Kansas farm and defend the Union against Colonel Watie, leader of the dreaded Cherokee Indian rebels. But he soon learns that there's more to war than honor and glory.

*A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park (Newbery Medal Winner 2002)

Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge near a potters' village, and longs to learn how to make delicate celadon ceramics.

*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon Draper

When a burning cross, set by the Klan, causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.

Trailblazer Books series by Dave and Neta Jackson

A series of action-packed historical fiction novels introducing great real-life Christian heroes. Each book portrays a significant period in a hero or heroine's life and ministry.

*War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo

Joey the horse recalls his experiences growing up on an English farm, his struggle for survival as a cavalry horse during World War I, and his reunion with his beloved master.

*The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Newbery Honor Book 2016)

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, escaping a life with an abusive mother.

*Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk (Newbery Honor Book 2017)

Annabelle lives a quiet life in her small town until a new student arrives in class, who reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative. When reclusive World War I vet Toby becomes the target of her attacks, Annabelle determines to find the courage to stand as a lone voice of justice.

**Science Fiction**

*Found* by Margaret Peterson Haddix (Missing series)



**St. David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 6th Grade**

When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were found on a plane full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel.

*Last Day on Mars* by Kevin Emerson

While waiting to leave Mars before it burns up, Liam and Phoebe discover some facts about time and space and realize that the human race is just one of the races trying to survive in space.

*The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trent Lee Steward (and others in the series)

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle (Time quintet series) (Newbery Medal Winner 1963)

Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time to find Meg's father, who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

**Nonfiction**

**Biography/Autobiography**

*Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell* by Tom L. Matthews

This biography, with photographs and quotes from Bell himself, follows the inventor from his childhood in Scotland through his efforts to come up with ideas that would improve people's lives.

*The Boy on the Wooden Box* by Leon Leyson (Sydney Taylor Book Award Honor 2014)

In the only memoir of a former Schindler's list child, the author tells the unthinkable story of his experiences in the Krakow ghetto and concentration camp.

*The Boy Who Fell off the Mayflower* by Patrick James Lynch

Illustrated account of the life of John Howland and his perilous journey to New England.

*The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science* by Joyce Sidman (Sibert Medal Winner 2019)

Visual biography of the woman who discovered the scientific truth about metamorphosis as she pursued her passion for entomology and art.

*Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Beecher Preachers* by Jean Fritz

The story of Harriet Beecher Stowe, who opposed slavery so passionately that she decided to write novels about it and became the most famous of a renowned family.



**St. David's School**  
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**Rising 6th Grade**

*Hudson Taylor: Deep in the Heart of China* by Janet & Geoff Benge (and others in the series Christian Heroes: Then and Now)

A biography of the late nineteenth-century English missionary to China, Hudson Taylor. This series tells about the powerful lives of Christians who have shaped history, giving the reader a chance to see how God works through the lives of His followers.

*Leon's Story* by Leon Walter Tillage

The son of a North Carolina sharecropper recalls the hard times faced by his family and other African Americans in the first half of the twentieth century and the changes that the Civil Rights Movement helped bring about.

*Through My Eyes: A Quarterback's Journey (Young Readers Edition)* by Tim Tebow  
NFL quarterback Tebow gives a behind-the-scenes look at his life on and off the field, as he shares how faith, family values, and determination have molded him into the person and athlete he is today.

**General Nonfiction**

*Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun* by Rhoda Blumberg (Newbery Honor Book 1986)

Details one of history's most significant diplomatic achievements, when Commodore Perry helped open Japan's closed society to world trade in the 1850s.

*Dr. Jenner and the Speckled Monster: The Search for the Smallpox Vaccine* by Albert Marrin

Chronicles Dr. Edward Jenner's efforts to discover a vaccine for the smallpox virus and explains how his discovery impacted the world.

*Girls Who Looked under Rocks: The Lives of Six Pioneering Naturalists* by Jeannine Atkins

Contains profiles of six girls who displayed an early interest in nature, and who grew up to be award-winning scientists and writers.

*Hidden Figures (Young Reader's Edition)* by Margot Lee Shetterly

This book brings to life the true stories of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, four African-American women who lived through the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the movement for gender equality, and whose work forever changed the face of NASA.

*Quiet Power: The Secret Strengths of Introverts (Kids Edition)* by Susan Cain

An adaptation of the authors' best-selling book, *Quiet: The Power of Introverts In a World That Can't Stop Talking*, this book offers tips and reassurance for young people who tend to be more introverted.



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**All seventh-grade students are asked to read the following book over the summer and are highly encouraged to read a second book from the suggested reading below. Students should come to class in the fall prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.**

**Required: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, translated by Richard Howard  
ISBN: 9780156012195 (Please use this edition, available from Quail Ridge Books)



Voted the best book of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century in France, *The Little Prince*, a delightful novella about a young prince who visits Earth, has been translated from French into 300 languages and dialects. First published in 1943, it is the most famous work of French aristocrat, writer, poet, and pioneering aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Since its publication, *The Little Prince* has been adapted to many media and art forms, including stage, film, television, opera, and ballet. Although often regarded as a children's book, *The Little Prince* appeals to all audiences in its profound observations about life and human nature. Rich in universal themes of friendship, love, and loneliness, *The Little Prince* will remind readers of what is most important in life and will serve as a wonderful introduction to the coming year's studies in English 7.



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Suggested Reading: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Fiction**

**Action/Adventure**

*Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne

Phileas Fogg, an English gentleman, bets 20,000 pounds that he can travel around the world in only 80 days.

*Captains Courageous* by Rudyard Kipling

A sheltered American heir to a fortune is saved from drowning by a New England fishing schooner and must learn to survive on his own strength.

*The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* by Howard Pyle

The outlaw Robin Hood and his band of merry men share many adventures as they plunder the king's purse and endear themselves to the poor.

*Navigating Early* by Clare Vanderpool (Printz Honor 2014)

Two boys leave their boarding school in Maine and head off on an epic quest along the Appalachian Trail in search of a great black bear.

*The Swiss Family Robinson* by Johann Wyss

The story of adventure and survival of a Swiss family who are shipwrecked on an uncharted island in the nineteenth century.

*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of an inn and her son find a treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune as well as great danger.

**Fantasy and Fable**

*Black Horses for the King* by Anne McCaffrey

Galwyn, son of a Roman Celt, escapes from his tyrannical uncle and joins Lord Artos, later known as King Arthur, to help secure and care for the Libyan horses that Artos hopes to use in battle against the Saxons.

*The Children's Homer* by Padraic Colum

A retelling of the events of the Trojan War and the wanderings of Odysseus, based on Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.

*The Fellowship of the Ring* by J. R. R. Tolkien (The Lord of the Rings Trilogy)

Assisted by an odd troupe of heroes, Frodo Baggins sets off on a perilous journey to take the mystical One Ring to Mount Doom so that it and its magical powers can be destroyed.





**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*The Golden Fleece: And the Heroes Who Lived before Achilles* by Padraic Colum  
Travel to ancient Greece, where gods and goddesses walk the earth and a youth named Jason must capture the famous Golden Fleece. Mythology buffs will love the classic stories of Greek heroes, from Hercules to Orpheus to Theseus.

*The Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Other Stories* by Washington Irving  
Includes thirteen short stories by Washington Irving, including the title work about schoolmaster Ichabod Crane and his encounter with a headless horseman.

*The Neverending Story* by Michael Ende  
Shy, awkward Bastian is amazed to discover that he has become a character in the mysterious book he is reading and that he has an important mission to fulfill.

*Odyssey* by Homer, translated by Stanley Lombardo  
Composed 3,000 years ago, this epic poem describes a Greek warrior's journey home after the Trojan War. (This is an unabridged version with some PG-13 themes and language.)

*Peter Pan* by James M. Barrie  
Peter Pan, a boy who refuses to grow up, brings Wendy Darling and her brothers to Neverland for the adventure of a lifetime.

*The Story of King Arthur and His Knights* by Howard Pyle  
In this enchanting version, the renowned American illustrator and storyteller Howard Pyle retells the perilous and thrilling adventures of King Arthur and his knights in that glorious age of chivalry and honor.

*Tarzan of the Apes* by Edgar Rice Burroughs  
Tarzan, abandoned as a baby in the jungle of Africa, is adopted into a tribe of great apes and grows to become Lord of the Jungle until his domain is disturbed by civilized men who cause Tarzan to question his true identity.

**General Fiction**

*Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell  
A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters.

*Booked* by Kwame Alexander (National Book Award Long List 2016)  
Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander (Newbery Medal Winner 2015; Coretta Scott King Honor 2015)

Just like star basketball players Josh and Jordan, this story moves swiftly, with plenty of action and drama on and off the court. Told in verse, the story is heartbreaking and heartwarming.





**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

This classic story chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young women in mid-nineteenth-century New England.

*Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy* by Gary Schmidt (Newbery Honor Book 2005)

Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves.

*Okay for Now* by Gary Schmidt (National Book Award Finalist 2011)

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including a brother traumatized by Vietnam. Through his friendship with Lil and a developing passion for art, Doug discovers his best self.

*Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson (Newbery Honor 2018 and Coretta Scott Key Award Winner 2018)

This powerful story dispels racial stereotypes of so-called at-risk teens. Jade navigates her private high school education with determination to succeed on her own terms.

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.

*Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen (Schneider Family Book Award 2012)

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb, and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

*Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

Stargirl, a teen who animates Mica High School with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.

*Tangerine* by Edward Bloor

Paul, who lives in the shadow of his athletic older brother, overcomes near blindness to play soccer on a school team. In the process, he discovers a difficult truth about his past.

*The Underdogs* by Mike Lupica

Small but fast twelve-year-old Will Tyler, an avid football player in the down-and-out town of Forbes, Pennsylvania, takes matters into his own hands to try and finance the city's football team, giving the whole community hope in the process.

**Historical Fiction**

*Blood on the River: James Town 1607* by Elisa Carbone



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Traveling to the New World in 1606 as the page to Captain John Smith, twelve-year-old orphan Samuel Collier settles in the new colony of James Town, where he must quickly learn to distinguish between friend and foe.

*The Boy Who Dared* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

In October 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hübener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson (National Book Award Finalist 2008)

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

*Christy* by Catherine Marshall

In the year 1912, nineteen-year-old Christy Huddleston leaves home to teach school in the Smoky Mountains and comes to know and love the resilient people of the region. Her faith is challenged by trial and tragedy and by a heart torn between true love and unwavering devotion.

*Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee

In 1890 Atlanta, 17-year-old Chinese American Jo Kuan works as a lady's maid for cruel Caroline Payne. But by night, Jo moonlights as the pseudonymous author of a newspaper advice column, turning society upside-down.

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson (ALA Best Books for Young Adults 2001)

Sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793.

*The Fifth of March: A Story of the Boston Massacre* by Ann Rinaldi

Fourteen-year-old Rachel Marsh, an indentured servant in the Boston household of John and Abigail Adams, is caught up in the colonists' unrest that eventually escalates into the massacre of March 5, 1770.

*Good Night, Mr. Tom* by Michelle Magorian

A battered child learns to embrace life when he is adopted by an old man in the English countryside during World War II.

*Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson (Newbery Honor Book 2007)

Sixteen-year-old Hattie Brooks inherits her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana in 1917 and encounters some unexpected problems related to the war in Europe.

*The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schlitz (National Jewish Book Award Winner 2016; Scott O'Dell Award Winner 2016)

In 1911, fourteen-year-old Joan, who works as hired help for a prominent Jewish family, writes in her diary of her dreams for a better life. Lovely book of faith, hope, and self-awareness.



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*Inside Out & Back Again* by Thanhha Lai (National Book Award Winner 2011; Newbery Honor 2012)

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

*Let the Circle Be Unbroken* by Mildred Taylor (Coretta Scott King Award 1982) (Logan series)

Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial antagonisms and hard times but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect they need.

*Out of Many Waters* by Jacqueline Dembar Greene (companion book: *One Foot Ashore*)

Kidnapped from their parents during the Portuguese Inquisition and sent to work as slaves at a monastery in Brazil, two Jewish sisters attempt to make their way back to Europe to find their parents. One becomes part of a group founding the first Jewish settlement in the United States.

*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse (Newbery Medal Winner 1998)

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

*Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys (Carnegie Medal Winner 2017)

World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are fleeing to freedom, many with something to hide. The paths of three young people converge on the ship, the Wilhelm Gustloff, as tragedy strikes.

**Science Fiction**

*Skyward* by Brandon Sanderson (first in a trilogy)

Action-packed adventure of a fearless teen who is determined to attend flight school and join the elite to protect their world from alien Krell attacks.

*Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea* by Jules Verne

An American frigate tracks down a ship-sinking submarine commanded by the mysterious Captain Nemo.

**Nonfiction**

**Biography/Autobiography**

*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson (National Book Award Winner 2015; Coretta Scott King Award Winner 2015; Newbery Honor 2015)

In moving verse, author Woodson tells the story of her childhood growing up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s. Eloquent and inspiring.



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*C.S. Lewis: Master Storyteller* by Janet Bengtson and Geoff Bengtson

A biography of the author of *The Chronicles of Narnia* who converted from atheism to Christianity. Part of the missionary biography series, *Christian Heroes, Then & Now*, which chronicles the exciting, challenging, and deeply touching true stories of ordinary men and women whose trust in God accomplished extraordinary exploits for His kingdom and glory.

*Condoleezza Rice: A Memoir of My Extraordinary, Ordinary Family and Me* by Condoleezza Rice

In this memoir, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice tells what life was like growing up in the segregated south during the 1950s and 1960s.

*Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond* by

Joseph Medicine Crow (American Indian Library Association Award 2008)

Meet Joseph Medicine Crow, a man raised in two worlds, a world according to the Crow Indian traditions and one according to the white man's rules.

*The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler* by John Hendrix

Tells the inspiring true story, in text and illustrations, of a German pastor who spoke out against the Nazi regime.

*Game Changer: Faith, Football, & Finding Your Way* by Kirk Cousins

Christian NFL football player, Kirk Cousins, recounts his life, describing how he puts his faith and values into action in the world of competitive football.

*George Washington, Spymaster: How America Out-spied the British and Won the Revolutionary War* by Thomas B. Allen

Examines how George Washington used espionage during the American Revolutionary War, discussing the Culper Ring, the Sons of Liberty, codes, ciphers, and more. Includes illustrations.

*I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai

Malala Yousafzai, a teenager from Pakistan, describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, and how the Taliban tried unsuccessfully to silence her.

*Invincible Louisa: The Story of the Author of Little Women* by Cornelia Meigs

Presents the life of Louisa May Alcott, who was able through the success of her writings to achieve one thing that was very important to her: to take care of all her family.

*The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary* by Candace Fleming

A dual biography of Abraham Lincoln and his wife, Mary, using photographs, letters, engravings, and cartoons to look at their childhoods, courtship, marriage, children, and other joys and traumas of their years together, including their deaths.



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*The Notorious Benedict Arnold* by Steve Sheinkin

An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.

*Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story* by Caren Stelson (National Book Award Finalist 2017; Sibert Honor Book 2017)

The heartbreaking true story of Sachiko Yasui's survival of the Nagasaki atomic bomb. The author conducted extensive interviews with Sachiko as she tells her story of loss and her long journey to find peace. Includes photos, notes, and bibliography.

*Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board* by Bethany Hamilton

Bethany Hamilton shares the story of her lifelong love of surfing and tells how she was able to recover and return to competition with the help of her family, friends, and faith after losing her arm in a shark attack at the age of thirteen.

*Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive (young adult edition)* by Laura Hillenbrand

This is the youth edition of the biography of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini. A track star, he served in the military, was shot down and had to survive in the open ocean.

**General Nonfiction**

*All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot

An English veterinarian reminisces about his life, career, and animal patients in a small village.

*Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin (Sibert Award Winner 2013; Newbery Honor Book 2013)

Multiple award-winning book about the plotting, risk-taking, deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon, the atomic bomb.

*The Boys in the Boat: The True Story of an American Team's Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics (young readers edition)* by Daniel James Brown

Amazing story of working-class boys who defeated elite rowing teams to win at the 1936 Olympics.

*The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club* by Phillip Hoose

The true story of teenage boys who ignited the Danish resistance during World War II.



**St David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson

Recounts the twelve-day pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth, covering the chase through Washington D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, with a discussion of Abraham Lincoln as a father, husband, and friend.

*Four Percent: The Story of Uncommon Youth in a Century of American Life* by Michael S. Malone.

More than a history of the Boy Scouts of America and the Eagle Scout, this book is filled with vivid historical anecdotes and compelling profiles of those who have attained the rank and who have transformed the face of America over the last century.

*Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence* by Russell Freedman

Describes the events leading up to the Declaration of Independence as well as the personalities and politics behind its framing.

*Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine* by Leslie Dendy and Mel Boring

True stories of ten scientists and medical researchers who have endured extreme hardship and discomfort in order to test new discoveries and inventions in the fields of medicine and science.

*A Light in the Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His Orphans, and the Holocaust* by Albert Marrin

Fascinating and inspiring account of the heroic Polish doctor who gave his life to protect the children in his care. Contrasts his understanding of the value of children vs. the ideology held by Hitler and gives insight into life in the Warsaw ghetto.

*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science* by John Fleischman

Phineas Gage, whose brain was pierced by an iron rod in 1848, survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.

*Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution* by Ji-li Jiang (ALA Best Books for Young Adults 1998)

The author tells about the happy life she led in China up until she was twelve years old, when her family became a target of the Cultural Revolution.

*Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H. L. Hunley* by Sally M. Walker (Sibert Medal Winner 2006)

The "H. L. Hunley" was the Confederate submarine that in 1864 became the first to ever sink an enemy ship. The submarine's creation, its discovery after being missing for over a century, and the skeletons and objects found onboard are detailed here.

*Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and the War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America* by Gail Jarrow (Sibert Honor Book 2019)



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**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Looks at the artists behind the broadcast, the broadcast itself, the aftermath, and repercussions of “fake news” today.

*War to End All Wars: World War I* by Russell Freedman

In this clear and authoritative account, the author shows the ways in which the seeds of a second world war were sown in the first. Numerous archival photographs give the often-disturbing subject matter a moving visual counterpart.

*We Were There, Too: Young People in U.S. History* by Phillip M. Hoose

This book draws from first-person accounts, journals, and interviews to tell the true stories of over seventy young people from a variety of cultures who played a role in the making of the United States, including explorers, patriots, rebels, slaves, miners, and activists.

*We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March* by Cynthia Levinson (ALA Notable Book 2013)

A multiple award-winner, this highly readable photo-essay about the role of young people in the Civil Rights era focuses on four young people who participated in the Birmingham Children's March in 1963.

*Who Was First? Discovering the Americas* by Russell Freeman

Thoroughly researched and impeccably documented, this is a compelling, handsomely illustrated account of the many discoverers of the Americas.





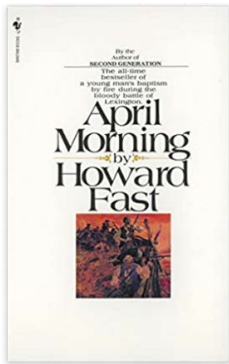
ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL  
Middle School Summer Reading 2021  
Humanities 8 (Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

All eighth-grade students are required to read the following book, and they are highly encouraged to read a second book from the suggested reading list below. Students should come to class in the fall prepared to demonstrate knowledge of their summer reading.

**Required: Humanities 8**

*April Morning* by Howard Fast

ISBN: 978-0553273229 (Bantam Books)



**Suggested Reading: Humanities 8**

**Fiction**

*Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell

A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters.

*Booked* by Kwame Alexander (National Book Award Long List 2016)

Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

*The Boy Who Dared* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

In October 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hübener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson (National Book Award Finalist 2008)

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.



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*Christy* by Catherine Marshall

In the year 1912, nineteen-year-old Christy Huddleston leaves home to teach school in the Smoky Mountains and comes to know and love the resilient people of the region. Her faith is challenged by trial and tragedy, by the needs of two remarkable young men, and by a heart torn between true love and unwavering devotion.

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander (Newbery Medal Winner 2015; Coretta Scott King Honor 2015)

Just like star basketball players Josh and Jordan, this story moves swiftly, with plenty of action and drama on and off the court. Told in verse, the story is heartbreaking and heartwarming.

*Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee

In 1890 Atlanta, 17-year-old Chinese American Jo Kuan works as a lady's maid for cruel Caroline Payne. But by night, Jo moonlights as the pseudonymous author of a newspaper advice column, turning society upside-down.

*The Fellowship of the Ring* by J. R. R. Tolkien (The Lord of the Rings Trilogy)

Assisted by an odd troupe of heroes, Frodo Baggins sets off on a perilous journey to take the mystical One Ring to Mount Doom so that it and its magical powers can be destroyed.

*Forge* by Laurie Halse Anderson (sequel to *Chains*)

Curzon, having matured from boy to man over the course of the winter with the army at Valley Forge, worries that someone will learn he is a runaway slave passing for free.

*Good Night, Mr. Tom* by Michelle Magorian

A battered child learns to embrace life when he is adopted by an old man in the English countryside during World War II.

*The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schlitz (National Jewish Book Award Winner 2016; Scott O'Dell Award Winner 2016)

In 1911, fourteen-year-old Joan, who works as hired help for a prominent Jewish family, writes in her diary of her dreams for a better life. Lovely book of faith, hope, and self-awareness.

*Inside Out & Back Again* by Thanhha Lai (National Book Award Winner 2011; Newbery Honor 2012)

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

*The Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Other Stories* by Washington Irving

Includes thirteen short stories by Washington Irving, including the title work about schoolmaster Ichabod Crane and his encounter with a headless horseman.



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*Let the Circle Be Unbroken* by Mildred Taylor (Coretta Scott King Award 1982)

Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial antagonisms and hard times but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect they need.

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

This classic story chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young women in mid-nineteenth-century New England.

*Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy* by Gary Schmidt (Newbery Honor Book 2005)

Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves.

*The Neverending Story* by Michael Ende

Shy, awkward Bastian is amazed to discover that he has become a character in the mysterious book he is reading and that he has an important mission to fulfill.

*Okay for Now* by Gary Schmidt (National Book Award Finalist 2011)

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including an abusive father and a brother traumatized by Vietnam. Through his friendship with Lil and a developing passion for art, Doug discovers his best self.

*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse (Newbery Medal Winner 1998)

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

*Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson (Newbery Honor 2018 and Coretta Scott Key Award Winner 2018)

This powerful story dispels racial stereotypes of so-called at-risk teens. Jade navigates her private high school education with determination to succeed on her own terms.

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.

*Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen (Schneider Family Book Award 2012)

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb, and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

*Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys (Carnegie Medal Winner 2017)

World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are fleeing to freedom, many with something to hide. The paths of three young people converge on the ship, the Wilhelm Gustloff, as tragedy strikes.



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*Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

Stargirl, a teen who animates Mica High School with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.

*Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea* by Jules Verne

An American frigate tracks down a ship-sinking submarine commanded by the mysterious Captain Nemo.

*The Underdogs* by Mike Lupica

Small but fast twelve-year-old Will Tyler, an avid football player in the down- and-out town of Forbes, Pennsylvania, takes matters into his own hands to try and finance the city's football team, giving the whole community hope in the process

**Nonfiction**

*Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin (Sibert Award Winner 2013; Newbery Honor Book 2013)

Multiple award-winning book about the plotting, risk-taking, deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon, the atomic bomb.

*The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club* by Phillip Hoose

The true story of teenage boys who ignited the Danish resistance during World War II.

*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson (National Book Award Winner 2015; Coretta Scott King Award Winner 2015; Newbery Honor 2015)

In moving verse, author Woodson tells the story of her childhood growing up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s. Eloquent and inspiring.

*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson

Recounts the twelve-day pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth, covering the chase through Washington D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, with a discussion of Abraham Lincoln as a father, husband, and friend.

*Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond* by Joseph Medicine Crow (American Indian Library Association Award 2008)

Meet Joseph Medicine Crow, a man raised in two worlds, a world according to the Crow Indian traditions and one according to White man's rules.

*George Washington, Spymaster: How America Out-spied the British and Won the Revolutionary War* by Thomas B. Allen

Examines how George Washington used espionage during the American Revolutionary War, discussing the Culper Ring, the Sons of Liberty, codes, ciphers, and more. Includes illustrations.



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*Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine* by Leslie Dendy and Mel Boring

True stories of ten scientists and medical researchers who have endured extreme hardship and discomfort in order to test new discoveries and inventions in the fields of medicine and science.

*Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Newbery Honor 2006; Sibert Honor Book 2006)

Photo-illustrated book that looks at the youth organizations Adolf Hitler founded and used to meet his sociopolitical and military ends; includes profiles of individual Hitler Youth members as well as young people who opposed the Nazis.

*I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai

Malala Yousafzai, a teenager from Pakistan, describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, and how the Taliban retaliated against her by trying to kill her.

*A Light in the Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His Orphans, and the Holocaust* by Albert Marrin

Fascinating and inspiring account of the heroic Polish doctor who gave his life to protect the children in his care. Contrasts his understanding of the value of children vs. the ideology held by Hitler and gives insight into life in the Warsaw ghetto.

*The Notorious Benedict Arnold* by Steve Sheinkin

An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.

*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science* by John Fleischman

Phineas Gage, whose brain was pierced by an iron rod in 1848, survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.

*Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story* by Caren Stelson (National Book Award Finalist 2017; Sibert Honor Book 2017)

The heartbreaking true story of Sachiko Yasui's survival of the Nagasaki atomic bomb. The author conducted extensive interviews with Sachiko as she tells her story of loss and her long journey to find peace. Includes photos, notes, and bibliography.

*Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H. L. Hunley* by Sally M. Walker (Sibert Medal Winner 2006)

The "H. L. Hunley" was the Confederate submarine that in 1864 became the first to ever sink an enemy ship. The submarine's creation, its discovery after being missing for over a century, and the skeletons and objects found onboard are detailed here.



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*Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive (young adult edition)*

by Laura Hillenbrand

This is the youth edition of the biography of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini. A track star, he served in the military, was shot down and had to survive in the open ocean.

*War to End All Wars: World War I* by Russell Freedman

In this clear and authoritative account, the author shows the ways in which the seeds of a second world war were sown in the first. Numerous archival photographs give the often-disturbing subject matter a moving visual counterpart.

*We Were There, Too: Young People in U.S. History* by Phillip M. Hoose

This book draws from first-person accounts, journals, and interviews to tell the true stories of over seventy young people from a variety of cultures who played a role in the making of the United States, including explorers, patriots, rebels, slaves, miners, and activists.

*We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March* by Cynthia Levinson (ALA Notable Book 2013)

A multiple award-winner, this highly readable photo-essay about the role of young people in the Civil Rights era focuses on four young people who participated in the Birmingham Children's March in 1963.

*Who Was First? Discovering the Americas* by Russell Freeman

Thoroughly researched and impeccably documented, this is a compelling, handsomely illustrated account of the many discoverers of the Americas.

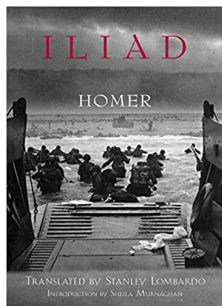


**St. David's School**  
**Middle School Summer Reading 2021**  
**Department of Classical Languages**

**Optional Reading: Latin II**

The following is optional reading for those enrolled in Latin II.

*Iliad* by Homer, translated by Stanley Lombardo  
ISBN: 978-0872203525 (Please use this edition.)



Students may read *Iliad* in English from the edition referenced above in preparation for their work with this poem during the year.