

12th Grade English College Prep Summer Reading

Dear Parents and Senior Students:

Developing the habit of reading is important for a plethora of reasons. Students who commit to reading score much higher on college entrance exams than those who do not. A habit of regular reading also directly informs students' writing abilities in positive ways. Due to brain research, we now know that reading comprehension requires practice; much in the same way that musical instruments do. In short, the more we read, the better we readers we become.

Required Reading:

Since it is important for college-bound students to understand and develop personal reading preferences, each senior will be required to read **ONE** *New York Times* bestseller of his or her choice. The following are recommended possibilities; however, any adult book on the New York Times bestseller list (that has been approved by students' parents and has not been read in a prior class) will be acceptable. Students will write book critiques and submit them to online booksellers during the first week of school.

Recommended New York Times Bestsellers

The Magnolia Story (Chip and Joanna Gaines)

Roaring to the Finish (Dale Earnhardt, Jr. & Ryan McGee)

A Serial Killer's Daughter (Kerri Rawson)

Unshakable Hope (Max Lucado)

Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy (Eric Metaxas)

Fish Out of Water: Finding the Meaning of Life, (Eric Metaxas)

Becoming Mrs. Lewis (Patti Callahan) –An Alabama author

Overcomer (Dr. David Jeremiah)

Suggested Reading:

Throughout the year, our class will read several classic works, including novels, short stories and poetry. If you would like to read some of these ahead time, the following are recommended:

Beowulf (author unknown)

Hamlet: Prince of Denmark, William Shakespeare

The Importance of Being Earnest, Oscar Wilde

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley

"The Marriage Proposal" (a one-act play), Anton Chekhov

"The Boor" (a one-act play), Anton Chekhov