7th Grade Summer Reading

REQUIRED SUMMER READING	ASSESSMENTS
Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper	• Standardized Quiz to be given within the first week of school.

(The following list is COMPLETELY OPTIONAL. The only REQUIRED READING for the summer is *Out of my Mind* by Sharon Draper.

***A note to parents*: While we are choosing books for literary value to pique students' interest, you should use your own discretion for content. Because the reading level and content level will vary within this list, we encourage you to read over the list with your child and choose a book you feel is most suitable for their interest and maturity level.**

1*) *Unstoppable by Tim Green (343 pages) As a foster kid in a cruel home, he knows his dream of one day playing in the NFL is a longshot. Then Harrison is brought into a new home with kind, loving parents—his new dad is even a football coach. Harrison's big build and his incredible determination quickly make him a star running back on the junior high school team. On the field, he's practically unstoppable. But Harrison's good luck can't last forever. When a routine sports injury leads to a devastating diagnosis, it will take every ounce of Harrison's determination not to give up for good.

2) ***Solitary*** by Travis Thrasher (Christian Thriller- 400 pages) His Loneliness Will Soon Turn to Fear…. When Chris Buckley moves to Solitary, North Carolina, he faces the reality of his parents' divorce, a school full of nameless faces—and Jocelyn Evans. Jocelyn is beautiful and mysterious enough to leave Chris speechless. But the more Jocelyn resists him, the more the two are drawn together. Chris soon learns that Jocelyn has secrets as deep as the town itself. Secrets more terrifying than the bullies he faces in the locker room or his mother's unexplained nightmares. He slowly begins to understand the horrific answers. The question is whether he can save Jocelyn in time.

3) ***Miracle on 49th Street*** by Mike Lupica (272 pages) Josh Cameron has it all: a World Championship ring with the Boston Celtics, an MVP award, a clean-cut image, and the adoration of millions. What he doesn't have is family. Until the day 12-year-old smartaleck Molly Parker confronts him in a parking lot and claims to be his daughter—the only daughter of Jen Parker, Josh's college sweetheart and the still the only girl he's ever loved. Trouble is, Jen Parker died last year, and now Molly has tracked down the father she never knew, the one her mother never wanted her to know about. Josh Cameron cares about two things only: himself, and basketball. The last thing this superstar wants or needs is a 12-year-old daughter. Yet this isn't just any 12-year-old. Mr. World Champion has finally met his match.

4) ***The School for Good and Evil*** by Soman Chainani [Series: Book #1] (512 pages) With her glass slippers and devotion to good deeds, Sophie knows she'll earn top marks at the School for Good and join the ranks of past students like Cinderella, Rapunzel, and Snow White. Meanwhile, Agatha, with her shapeless black frocks and wicked black cat, seems a natural fit for the villains in the School for Evil. The two girls soon find their fortunes reversed—Sophie's dumped in the School for Evil to take Uglification, Death Curses, and Henchmen Training, while Agatha finds herself in the School for Good, thrust among handsome princes and fair maidens for classes in Princess Etiquette and Animal Communication. But what if the mistake is actually the first clue to discovering who Sophie and Agatha really are?

5) ***The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*** by John Boyne (216 pages) Berlin 1942 – When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion, and the family must move from their home to a new house far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance. But Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different than his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.

6) ***Swipe*** by Evan Angler (288 pages) (*Swipe* series: Book #1) Set in a future North America that is struggling to recover after famine and global war, *Swipe* follows the lives of three kids caught in the middle of a conflict they didn't even know existed. United under a charismatic leader, every citizen of the American Union is required

to get the Mark on their13th birthday in order to gain the benefits of citizenship. The Mark is a tattoo that must be swiped by special scanners for everything from employment to transportation to shopping. It's almost Logan Langly's 13th birthday and he knows he should be excited about getting the Mark, but he hasn't been able to shake the feeling he's being watched. Not since his sister went to get her Mark five years ago . . . and never came back.

7) ***Through My Eyes: A Quarterback's Journey, Young Reader's Edition*** by Tim Tebow with Nathan Whitaker (216 pages) Meet Tim Tebow: He grew up playing every sport imaginable, but football was his true passion. Even from an early age, Tim has always had the drive to be the best player and person that he could be. Through his hard work and determination, he established himself as one of the greatest quarterbacks in the history of college football and as a fan favorite in the NFL. Sharing the details of his life, both on and off the football field, Tim writes about how he chooses to live his life, revealing how his Christian faith, his family values, and his relentless will to succeed have molded him into the person and the athlete he is today.

8) ***Uglies*** by Scott Westerfeld (*science fiction- 432 pages)* Tally is about to turn sixteen—the most important birthday in her life. It is at age sixteen that residents of Uglyville cross over into New Pretty Town and their unattractive physical attributes are replaced to make them drop-dead gorgeous. Just before she is about to have her operations, Tally meets Shay, another Uglie about to reach the magic age of sixteen. However, Shay is different; she is not convinced that being ugly is all that bad. Shay ultimately decides to run away and join a group of renegades who are resisting the authorities, leaving Tally to await her operations. Unfortunately, the authorities suspect Tally of assisting Shay's defection and refuse her operation until she betrays her friend.

9) ***Money Hungry*** by Sharon G. Flake (192 pages) Raspberry Hill knows what it is like to be on the streets, to sleep in an abandoned car and to bathe in a public washroom. Now living in the projects with her mother, the thirteen-year-old has vowed never to live like that again. Raspberry is obsessed with money— earning it and keeping it—and never seems to have enough of it. Money is her life. She loves the feel of it, the smell of it. It motivates all that she does. Whether it is selling pencils or involving her friends in cleaning a filthy nursing home, Raspberry is always scheming for a way to make a buck.

10) ***Crazy Dangerous*** by Andrew Klavan (336 pages) Sam Hopkins is a good kid who has fallen in with the wrong crowd. But one day, Sam sees his friends harassing an eccentric schoolmate named Jennifer, and he finds the courage to face them. Jennifer seems downright crazy. She has terrifying hallucinations involving demons, the devil, and death. As crazy as it may seem, Sam begins to suspect that these visions may actually be prophecies—prophecies of something terrible that's going to happen very soon. Unless he can stop it. With no one to believe him or help him, Sam is all alone in a race against time.

11) ***So Not Happening*** by Jenny b. Jones (336 pages) Bella Kirkwood had it all: A-list friends at her prestigious private school, Broadway in her backyard, and Daddy's MasterCard in her wallet. Then her father, a plastic surgeon to the stars, decided to trade her mother in for a newer model. When Bella's mom falls in love with a man she met on the Internet--a factory worker with two bratty sons--Bella has to pack up and move in with her new family on a *farm* in Truman, Oklahoma! Before long, Bella smells something rotten in the town of Truman, and it's not just the cow pasture. With her savvy reporter's instincts, she is determined to find the story behind all the secrets. *How can a girl go on when her charmed life is gone, and God appears to be giving her the total smackdown?*

12) ***Kisses from Katie*** by Katie Davis (Auto-Biography) What would cause an eighteen-year-old senior class president and homecoming queen from Nashville, Tennessee, to disobey and disappoint her parents by forgoing college, break her little brother's heart, lose all but a handful of her friends (because they think she has gone off the deep end), and break up with the love of her life, all so she could move to Uganda, where she knew only one person and didn't even speak the language?