

May 16, 2023,

Dear Rising 7th graders,

Congratulations on finishing 6th grade! I'm excited to have you join 7th grade at St. Anne's next year. In order to keep your mind and reading skills sharp over the summer, I'd like you to read as many books as you can, but at least four NEW (to you) books you've never read before.

Why four? you might ask. Well, according to the Colorado Department of Education, reading just 4 to 6 books over the summer has the potential to prevent what we call "the summer slide." The "summer slide" is a decline in reading achievement scores and abilities, including reading comprehension, from the spring to the fall. So, even small steps you take over the summer can make a difference in your reading abilities and achievement in the next school year.

You are welcome to read physical books, read on a device, or listen to audiobooks. The book lists below provide recommendations based on stories (fiction, nonfiction, and poetry) that students have often enjoyed, but really, you should read whatever you'd like. ***Just make sure that whatever you read, you haven't read before.*** And you should also read what you enjoy and what engages and captivates your attention. If it's boring, put it down and find something else to read.

Please keep a list of the books you read and bring your list to class on the first day of school. You DO NOT have to log your reading each night, but you should be prepared to share your opinions of and reactions to your summer reads during the first couple of days of class.

Read on!

Mrs. Malia

**Please note that the grade recommendation below is based on content, not on reading level.*

REALISTIC FICTION

Title	Author	Grade Recommendation
<i>Train I Ride</i>	Paul Mosier	7th and up
<i>Harbor Me</i>	Jacqueline Woodson	7th and up
<i>Mayday</i>	Karen Harrington	7th and up
<i>Slider</i>	Pete Hautman	7th and up
<i>The Hate U Give</i>	Angie Thomas	7th and up
<i>On The Come Up</i>	Angie Thomas	7th and up
<i>Long Way Down</i>	Jason Reynolds	7th and up
<i>Anything from The Track Series</i> (<i>Ghost; Patina; Sunny; Lu</i>)	Jason Reynolds	7th and up
<i>The Fault in Our Stars</i>	John Greene	7th and up
<i>The Stars Beneath our Feet</i>	David Barclay Moore	7th and up
<i>Genesis Begins Again</i>	Alicia D. Williams	6th and up
<i>The Length of a String</i>	Elissa Brent Weissman	6th and up
<i>Front Desk</i>	Kelly Yang	6th and up
<i>A Long Walk to Water</i>	Linda Sue Park	6th and up
<i>The Breadwinner</i>	Deborah Ellis	6th and up
<i>Fish in a Tree</i>	Lynda Mullaly Hunt	6th and up
<i>Out of my Mind</i>	Sharon Draper	6th and up
<i>A Thousand Questions</i>	Saadia Faruqi	6th and up
<i>House Arrest</i>	K. A. Holt	6th and up
<i>The Thing About Jellyfish</i>	Ali Benjamin	6th and up
<i>Counting by Sevens</i>	Holly Goldberg Sloan	6th and up

<i>The Crossover</i>	Kwame Alexander	5th and up
<i>The First Rule of Punk</i>	Celia Perez	6th and up

MYSTERY

Title	Author	Grade Recommendation
<i>When you Reach Me</i>	Rebeca Stead	6th and up
<i>A Properly Unhaunted Place</i>	Will Alexander	6th and up
<i>Spirit Hunters</i>	Ellen Oh	6th and up
<i>The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle</i>	Janet Fox	6th and up
<i>The Blackthorn Key</i>	Kevin Sands	6th and up
<i>Greenglass House</i>	Kate Milford	6th and up
<i>The Westing Game</i>	Ellen Raskin	6th and up
<i>Clara Voyant</i>	Rachelle Delaney	6th and up
<i>Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</i>	Dusti Bowling	6th and up
<i>Chasing Secrets</i>	Gennifer Choldenko	7th and up
<i>Down the Rabbit Hole</i>	Peter Abrahams	6th and up
<i>Summerlost</i>	Alli Condie	6th and up
<i>The Emperor's Riddle</i>	Kat Zhang	6th and up

NONFICTION

Title	Author	Grade Recommendation
<i>When Stars Are Scattered</i> (A graphic novel biography)	Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed	6th and up
<i>The Keeper: The Unguarded Story of Tim Howard (Young Readers Edition)</i>	Tim Howard; William Harper	6th and 7th
<i>The Borden Murders</i>	Sarah Miller	6th and up
<i>Born a Crime (Young Reader's Edition)</i>	Trevor Noah	7th and up
<i>Hidden Figures (Young Reader's Edition)</i>	Margot Lee Shetterly	6th and up
<i>Unbroken (Young Reader's Edition)</i>	Laura Hillenbrand	6th and up
<i>Boys in the Boat (Young Reader's Edition)</i>	Gregory Mone & Daniel James Brown	6th and up
<i>The Boy who Harnessed the Wind</i>	William Kamkwamba	6th and up
<i>I am Malala (Young Reader's Edition)</i>	Malala Yousafzai	6th and up
<i>Life in Motion</i>	Misty Copeland	6th and up
<i>I Will Always Write Back</i>	Caitlin Alifirenka	6th and up

FANTASY/SCI-FI

Title	Author	Grade Recommendation
<i>The House with Chicken Legs</i>	Sophie Anderson	6th and up
<i>The Book of Dust</i>	Philip Pullman	6th and up
<i>Nowhere Boy</i>	Katherine Marsh	6th and up

<i>Children of Blood and Bone</i>	Tomi Adeyemi	7th and up
<i>The Bookwanderers</i>	Anna James	6th and up
<i>Shadow and Bone Series</i>	Leigh Bardugo	7th and up
<i>The Graveyard Book</i>	Neil Gaiman	6th and up
<i>Tale of Magic</i>	Chris Colfer	6th and up
<i>Anything by Rick Riordan</i>	Rick Riordan	6th and up
<i>Small Spaces</i>	Katherine Arden	6th and up
<i>The False Prince</i>	Jennifer A. Neilsen	7th and up
<i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i>	Kelly Barnhill	6th and up
<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i>	Ransom Riggs	6th and up
<i>Wildwood</i>	Colin Meloy	6th and up
<i>Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky</i>	Kwame Mbalia	6th and up
<i>Charlie Hernandez & the League of Shadows</i>	Ryan Calejo	6th and up
<i>Legend Series</i>	Marie Lu	6th and up
<i>The Arc of the Scythe</i>	Neal Shusterman	6th and up
<i>Akata Witch</i>	Nnedi Okorafor	7th and up
<i>Echo</i>	Pam Munoz Ryan	6th and up
<i>How I Became a Ghost</i>	Tim Tingle	6th and up
<i>When You Trap a Tiger</i>	Tae Teller	6th and up
<i>The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge</i>	MT Anderson & Eugene Yelchin	

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Title	Author	Grade Recommendation
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<i>The Odyssey</i>	Gareth Hinds (Homer)	7th and up
<i>March</i>	John Lewis	6th and up
<i>New Kid</i>	Jerry Craft	6th and up
<i>Class Act</i>	Jerry Craft	6th and up
<i>Amulet Series</i>	Kazu Kibuishi	6th and up
<i>Nimona</i>	Noelle Stevenson	7th and up
<i>Pashmina</i>	Nidhi Chanani	6th and up
<i>They Call us Enemy</i>	George Takei	6th and up
<i>Maus</i>	Art Spiegelman	7th and up
<i>Anya's Ghost</i>	Vera Brosgol	7th and up
<i>Witch Boy</i>	Molly Ostertag	6th and up
<i>El Deafo</i>	Cece Bell	6th and up

HISTORICAL FICTION

Title	Author	Grade Recommendation
<i>Shadow on the Mountain</i>	Margi Preus	7th and up
<i>The Crystal Ribbon</i>	Celeste Lim	6th and up (best for 12-14)
<i>Ashes in the Snow</i>	Ruta Sepetys	7th and up
<i>Fountains of Silence</i>	Ruta Sepetys	7th and up
<i>One Crazy Summer</i>	Rita Williams-Garcia	6th and up
<i>The Inquisitor's Tale</i>	Adam Gidwitz	6th and up
<i>The War that Saved My Life</i>	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	5th and up
<i>The War I Finally Won</i>	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	5th and up
<i>Inside Out and Back Again</i>	Thanhha Lai	6th and up
<i>Resistance</i>	Jennifer A. Neilsen	6th and up

<i><u>Lovely War</u></i>	Julie Berry	7th and up
<i><u>Code of Honor</u></i>	Alan Gratz	6th and up
<i><u>The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate</u></i>	Jacqueline Kelly	6th and up
<i><u>Refugee</u></i>	Alan Gratz	6th and up
<i><u>Samurai Shortstop</u></i>	Alan Gratz	6th and up
<i><u>The Great Trouble</u></i>	Deborah Hopkinson	6th and up
<i><u>Cloud and Wallfish</u></i>	Anne Nesbet	6th and up