



ST. MARY ACADEMY BAY VIEW

St. Mary Academy – Bay View Eighth Grade Summer Reading List 2018

You will be required to read three books this summer. The summer reading requirement is designed to encourage you to become avid, life-long readers and learners by inviting you to take pleasure in reading substantial, thought-provoking books. We hope you will find reading a pleasure in itself. Reading more than the required number of self-selected reading choices is encouraged! Although the majority of these novels are recommended by the American Library Association, we encourage parents and students to investigate and discuss book options together in order to make appropriate choices.

You will need to bring the following documents to your first English class:

- Two copies of the completed summer reading fiction notes (one for each fiction book read).

Part One: Required Reading

One required reading is assigned for all students. Please read the following book and be prepared for class discussion.

- ***Hidden Girl: The True Story of a Modern-Day Child Slave*** by Shyima Hall

An inspiring and compelling memoir from a young woman who lost her childhood to slavery—and built a new life grounded in determination and justice.

Part Two: Self-Selected Reading Fiction

Choose **two books** from the fiction list and complete the summer reading notes.

- ***City of Bones (series)*** by Cassandra Clare

Fifteen-year-old geek hipster Clary thought she was just a normal kid, but normal kids don't see invisible people, and normal kids' mothers don't suddenly disappear, seemingly captured by horrific monsters. But like many fantasy heroines, Clary isn't normal, and she has all the secret parentage, dramatic revelations and amazing magic powers to prove it. Clary is a Shadowhunter, brought up as a mundane but born to fight demons. She and her mundane friend Simon fall in with a trio of Shadowhunter teens and are soon embroiled in a quest to understand Clary's past—and incidentally save the world.

- ***The Book Thief*** by Markus Zusak

It is 1939 Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier and will become busier still. By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially

hidden in the snow. So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her foster father, learns to read.

- ***Jane Eyre*** by Charlotte Bronte

Charlotte Bronte's impassioned novel is the love story of Jane Eyre, a plain yet spirited governess, and the arrogant, brooding Mr. Rochester. Published in 1847, under the pseudonym of Currer Bell, the book heralded a new kind of heroine--one whose virtuous integrity, keen intellect and tireless perseverance broke through class barriers to win equal stature with the man she loved. Hailed as "the masterwork of great genius," *Jane Eyre* is still regarded, over a century later, as one of the finest novels in English literature.

- ***Between Shades of Gray*** by Ruta Sepetys

Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life, until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive?

- ***Flowers for Algernon*** by Daniel Keyes

Engaging simpleton Charlie Gordon wants to better himself, but with an IQ of 68 he can't even beat the laboratory mouse Algernon at maze-solving. Algernon is extra-clever thanks to an experimental brain operation so far tried only on animals. Charlie eagerly volunteers as the first human subject. Follow the highly emotional journal of Charlie Gordon.

- ***Down the Rabbit Hole*** by Peter Abrahams

Welcome to Echo Falls, home of a thousand secrets. Ingrid is in the wrong place at the wrong time. Or at least her shoes are. And getting them back will mean getting tangled up in a murder investigation as complicated as the mysteries solved by her idol, Sherlock Holmes. With soccer practice, schoolwork, and the lead role in her town's production of *Alice in Wonderland*, Ingrid is swamped. But as things in Echo Falls keep getting more peculiar, Ingrid realizes she must solve the murder on her own before it's too late!

- ***What the Moon Saw*** by Laura Resau

Fourteen-year-old Clara Luna spends the summer with her grandparents in the tiny, remote village of Yucuyoo, Mexico, learning about her grandmother's life as a healer, her father's decision to leave home for the United States and her own place in the world.

- ***The False Prince (*series)*** by Jennifer Nielsen

Sage is a street-savvy orphan, and along with two other boys is recruited by Conner, a nobleman who wants to remake them in the image of their country's lost prince. The prince is a victim of pirates and presumed dead. The task is urgent, as the rest of the royal family has been murdered and civil war seems imminent. As the boys, chosen for their passing resemblance to Prince Jaron, compete to assume a new identity and the throne, Sage discovers some unpleasant truths about their host, beyond his treasonous plans to pass one of them off as royalty.

- ***The Age of Miracles*** by Karen Thompson Walker

When scientists reveal that the earth's rotation has been extended by 56 minutes, there is a minor panic. Twelve-year-old Julia doesn't really recognize what's happening. At first, life seems to go on as usual, until the slowdown continues, and it isn't only by an hour anymore. The days keep stretching, with no apparent return to normal. The world's governments agree to keep "clock time," forcing everyone to

stick to a 24-hour schedule, despite sunrise and sunset. Rebels known as “real-timers” are ostracized and harassed. Some people become afflicted with “slowing syndrome,” leaving them disoriented and prone to passing out. Studies document an increase in impulsive behavior in others, and those seemingly unaffected by the slowing find themselves making bad decisions. All of this has an impact on Julia, who sees her parents, teachers, and neighbors crumbling around her.

- ***The Outsiders*** by S.E. Hinton

According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for "social") has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a greaser, and he's always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers, until one terrible night when his friend Johnny kills a soc. The murder gets under Ponyboy's skin, causing his world to crumble and teaching him that pain feels the same whether a soc or a greaser. This classic, written by S. E. Hinton when she was 16 years old, is as profound today as it was when it was first published in 1967.

Student name: _____ Book Title: _____

Grade 8 Summer Reading Notes

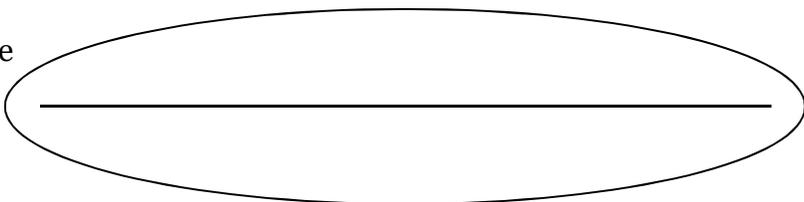
Character Map: choose one major character from each book:

A well-written book, whether a memoir or fiction, contains key events in the character/person's life. Your job as a reader is to determine which events were important. The character map below can help. Consider what you know about the character and fill in the chart accordingly.

What he/she did and said
1.
2.
3.

How he/she looked and felt
1.
2.
3.

Person's Name

→ 

What others thought of him/her
1.
2.
3.

How I feel about him/her
1.
2.
3.