



ST. MARY ACADEMY
BAY VIEW

**Seventh Grade
Summer Reading List 2019**

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 and that 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:

- Three copies of the completed summer reading fiction notes (one for each 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.

- ***Refugee*** by Alan Gratz

Gratz presents three interrelated stories about surviving. The tales center on children and their families who are driven from their homes by war, violence, and unrest.

Part Two: Self-Selected Reading Fiction

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

- ***Heist Society*** by Ally Carter
A group of teenagers uses its combined talents to re-steal several priceless paintings and save fifteen-year-old Kat Bishop's father, himself an international art thief, from a vengeful collector.

- ***A Mango-Shaped Space*** by Wendy Mass
 13-year-old Mia Winchell has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person can see sounds, smell colors, or taste shapes. Forced to reveal her condition, she must look to herself to develop an understanding and appreciation of her gift in this coming-of-age novel.
- ***The Grimm Legacy*** by Polly Shulman
 New York high school student Elizabeth gets an after-school job as a page at the "New-York Circulating Material Repository," and when she gains coveted access to its Grimm Collection of magical objects, she and the other pages are drawn into a series of frightening adventures involving mythical creatures and stolen goods.
- ***Lily's Crossing*** by Patricia Reilly Giff
 Elizabeth Mollahan lost her mom when she was little. Her father and her grandmother are her only family. Every summer the three of them flee sweaty New York City for a beach house in the Rockaways – until now. This is a different summer – one of pain, secrets and adventures – when Lily's father enlists in the army and she meets Albert.
- ***Stargirl*** by Jerry Spinelli
 High school is a time of great conformity, when being just like everybody else is of paramount importance. So it is no surprise that Stargirl Caraway causes such excitement and confusion when she arrives at Mica High in Arizona. Initially, everyone is charmed by her unconventional behavior. Naturally, this cannot last and eventually her individuality is reviled. The story is told by Leo, who falls in love with Stargirl's zany originality, but who then finds himself unable to let go of the need to be conventional. This novel teaches its readers to understand how it feels to not quite fit the mold of conformity.
- ***The Giver*** by Lois Lowry
 In a world with no poverty, no crime, no sickness and no unemployment, and where every family is happy, 12-year-old Jonas is chosen to be the community's Receiver of Memories. Under the tutelage of the Elders and an old man known as the Giver, he discovers the disturbing truth about his utopian world and struggles against the weight of its hypocrisy. In this 1994 *Newbery Medal* winner, Lowry examines the idea that people might freely choose to give up their humanity in order to create a more stable society. Gradually Jonas learns just how costly this ordered and pain-free society can be, and boldly decides he cannot pay the price.
- ***I Capture the Castle*** by Dodie Smith
I Capture the Castle is a novel that takes the form of a collection of journals kept by seventeen-year-old Cassandra Mortmain. Set in the 1930's, Cassandra and her family live in an abandoned castle in the English countryside. They are poor and

have barely met ends for several years. But when two young men, Simon and Neil Cotton, appear in their lives, their fortunes take a turn for the better, and everyone at the castle starts to change. *I Capture the Castle* touches on the importance of family, forgiveness, and how life can't always be planned out. The conclusion will leave you satisfied with the way that Cassandra accepts whatever happens next.

- ***The Thing About Luck*** by Cynthia Kadohata
In this National Book Award for Young People's Literature, there is bad luck, good luck, and making your own luck—which is exactly what Summer must do to save her family. Summer knows that *kouun* means “good luck” in Japanese, and this year her family has none of it. Just when she thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong, an emergency whisks her parents away to Japan—right before harvest season. Summer and her little brother, Jaz, are left in the care of their grandparents, who come out of retirement in order to harvest wheat and help pay the bills., Summer has to figure out how to change the luck herself, even if it means further displeasing her grandmother, because it might be the only way to save her family.
- ***The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet*** by Erin Dionne
All Hamlet Kennedy wants is to be a normal eighth grader. But with parents like hers - Shakespearean scholars who actually dress in Elizabethan regalia . . . in public! - it's not that easy. As if they weren't strange enough, her genius seven-year-old sister will be attending her middle school, and is named the new math tutor. Then, when the Shakespeare Project is announced, Hamlet reveals herself to be an amazing actress. Even though she wants to be average, Hamlet can no longer hide from the fact that she- like her family - is anything but ordinary.
- ***The Maze Runner (*series)*** by James Dashner
Thomas wakes up in an elevator, remembering nothing but his own name. He emerges into a world of about 60 teen boys who have learned to survive in a completely enclosed environment, subsisting on their own agriculture and supplies from below. A new boy arrives every 30 days. The original group has been in "the glade" for two years, trying to find a way to escape through a maze that surrounds their living space. They have begun to give up hope. Then a comatose girl arrives with a strange note, and their world begins to change.

****You may opt to read any book in the selected series, but must choose another book from this list for your other self-selected reading choice.***

Name _____

Date _____

Grade 7 Summer Reading Notes

Book Title

Author

Major Character/Subject of the Book

Setting (where and when) of the story

Personality Traits of Subject

1.
2.
3.
4.

Physical Traits of Subject

1.
2.
3.
4.

The subject has affected others by . . .

1.	_____

2.	_____

A major conflict or problem the subject faced was . . .

The conflict or problem was resolved when . . .

Some desires, wants or wishes of the subject are . . .

1.
2.
3.

Subject's Feelings	What causes the subject to feel this way?
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.