

Summer Reading 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

The purposes of our summer reading program for MBJH students are to promote continuous reading habits, to encourage reading for pleasure, and to establish a springboard for class discussion in the fall. Our goal is to develop independent readers who will continue lifelong reading habits because they find personal value in reading and sharing good books. Recognizing the interest of parents in their children's reading development, we encourage parents to nurture that development and to make recommendations to their children throughout the year.

A list is attached if you need help in making selections, but your **choice** books do not have to come from the list.

Class discussions and assessments at the beginning of school will focus on the books you read, both the required ones and the choice ones.

HAPPY READING! BOOKS MUST BE FINISHED BY THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL! REQUIRED SELECTIONS WERE MADE WITH CLASS INSTRUCTION IN MIND, SO NO SUBSTITUTIONS, PLEASE.

Sincerely yours,
MBJH English Teachers

8th Grade Regular English
Summer Reading 2009
Theme: The Hero's Journey

REQUIRED:

Tunes for Bears to Dance To by Robert Cormier – Henry befriends Mr. Levine, an elderly Holocaust survivor, who is carving a replica of his home village that was destroyed in the war. A powerful book!

Grayson by Lynne Cox -- Lynne Cox has an amazing and rare experience with a baby whale. A true-life adventure story!

CHOICE:

Choose at least one additional book to read over the summer. You may use the attached lists for suggestions, or you may choose books on your own. Be sure to remember the title and author of the book that you read. Have your summer reading list ready to turn in on the first day of school. Please list everything you read this summer. Some of you read **more** than three books in a summer, so please list all of them!

Seventh and Eighth Grade Suggested Fiction

You may choose any fiction text for your choice book, provided it is grade-level appropriate. If you would like some book suggestions, you may refer to the list below. However, it is not mandatory that your choice comes from this list.

<i>At Home in Mitford</i>	Jan Karon
<i>Cheaper By the Dozen</i>	Frank Gilbreth and Ernestine Gilbreth ...
<i>Downriver</i>	Will Hobbs
<i>Ender's Game</i>	Orson Scott Card
<i>Eragon</i>	Christopher Paolini
<i>Fallen Angels</i>	Walter Dean Myers
<i>Five People You Meet in Heaven</i>	Mitch Albom
<i>Flipped</i>	Wendelin Van Draanen
<i>Gathering Blue</i>	Lois Lowry
<i>Heat</i>	Mike Lupica
<i>Homecoming</i>	Cynthia Voigt
<i>Hope Was Here</i>	Joan Bauer
<i>Inkheart</i>	Cornelia Funke
<i>Little Women</i>	Louisa May Alcott
<i>Murder on a Bad Hair Day</i>	Anne George
<i>Nine Coaches Waiting</i>	Mary Stewart
<i>No More Dead Dogs</i>	Gordon Korman
<i>Redwall series</i>	Brian Jacques
<i>Silver</i>	Norma Fox Mazer
<i>The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i>	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Mark Twain
<i>The Contender</i>	Robert Lipsyte
<i>The Dark Is Rising</i>	Susan Cooper
<i>The Hero and the Crown</i>	Robin McKinley
<i>The Hobbit</i>	J. R. R. Tolkien
<i>The Last of the Breed</i>	Louis L'Amour
<i>The Thief Lord</i>	Cornelia Funke
<i>The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle</i>	Avi
<i>The Unlikely Romance of Kate Bjorkman</i>	Louise Plummer
<i>Uglies</i>	Scott Westerfield
<i>Walk Two Moons</i>	Sharon Creech

Seventh and Eighth Grade Suggested Nonfiction

You may choose any nonfiction text for your choice book, provided it is grade-level appropriate. If you would like some book suggestions, you may refer to the list below. However, it is not mandatory that your choice comes from this list.

<i>Another Season</i>	Gene Stallings
<i>Boy</i>	Roald Dahl
<i>Good Brother, Bad Brother: The Story of Edward and John W. Booth</i>	James Cross
<i>It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life</i>	Lance Armstrong
<i>Joe and Me: An Education in Fishing and Friendship</i>	Joe Prosek
<i>Joni</i>	Joni Eareckson Tada
<i>Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX, the Law That Changed...</i>	Karen Blumenthal
<i>Marley and Me</i>	
<i>My Life in Dog Years</i>	Gary Paulsen
<i>My Sergei: A Love Story</i>	Ekaterina Gordeeva
<i>Night</i>	Elie Weisel
<i>Reach for the Summit</i>	Pat Summit
<i>Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board</i>	Bethany Hamilton
<i>The Fire Tower: Alabama Turkey Hunting</i>	Bob Henderson, Jr.
<i>The Greatest Generation</i>	Tom Brokaw
<i>The Hiding Place</i>	Corrie Ten Boom
<i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i>	Mitch Albom
<i>Walk Across America</i>	Peter Jenkins
<i>Warriors Don't Cry</i>	Melba Patillo Beale