

## 2018 Summer Reading Assignment:

### Rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>

Although summer reading is not a requirement for middle school, the following are recommended books for students who wish to read this summer.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Recommended Reading:

- ***The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett**-This timeless classic is a poignant tale of Mary, a lonely orphaned girl sent to a Yorkshire mansion at the edge of a vast lonely moor. At first, she is frightened by this gloomy place until she meets a local boy, Dickon, who's earned the trust of the moor's wild animals, the invalid Colin, an unhappy boy terrified of life, and a mysterious, abandoned garden...
- ***Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls**-A loving threesome, they ranged the dark hills and river bottoms of Cherokee country. Old Dan had the brawn. Little Ann had the brains, and Billy had the will to make them into the finest hunting team in the valley. Glory and victory were coming to them, but sadness waited too. *Where the Red Fern Grows* is an exciting tale of love and adventure you'll never forget.
- ***The Light in the Forest* by Conrad Richter**-When John Cameron Butler was a child, he was captured in a raid on the Pennsylvania frontier and adopted by the great warrior Cuyloga. Renamed True Son, he came to think of himself as fully Indian. But eleven years later his tribe, the Lenni Lenape, has signed a treaty with the white men and agreed to return their captives, including fifteen-year-old True Son. Now he must go back to the family he has forgotten, whose language is no longer his, and whose ways of dress and behavior are as strange to him as the ways of the forest are to them. A beautifully written, sensitively told story of a white boy brought up by Indians, *The Light in the Forest* is a beloved American classic.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Recommended Reading:

- ***White Fang* by Jack London**-Half wolf, half dog, White Fang fully understands the cruelty of both nature and humans. After nearly starving to death during the frigid Arctic winter, he's taken in first by a man who "trains" him through constant whippings, and then by another who forces him to participate in vicious dogfights. Follow White Fang as he overcomes these obstacles and finally meets someone who offers him kindness and love.
- ***The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan** -Percy Jackson is a good kid, but he can't seem to focus on his schoolwork or control his temper. And lately, being away at boarding school is only getting worse-Percy could have sworn his pre-algebra teacher turned into a monster and tried to kill him. When Percy's mom finds out, she knows it's time that he knew the truth about where he came from, and that he goes to the one place he'll be safe. She sends Percy to Camp Half Blood, a summer camp for demigods (on Long Island), where he learns that the father he never knew is Poseidon, God of the Sea.
- ***Watership Down* by Richard Adams**-Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home. Led by a stouthearted pair of friends, they journey forth from their native Sandleford Warren through the harrowing trials posed by predators and adversaries, to a mysterious promised land and a more perfect society.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Recommended Reading:**

### **\*\*Classic:**

*The Prince and the Pauper* by Mark Twain

*Tom Sawyer* \* by Mark Twain

*The Pearl* by John Steinbeck (sad ending)

### **\*\*Historical Fiction:**

*All Quiet on the Western Front* \* by Erich Maria Remarque

*Red Badge of Courage*\* by Stephen Crane

*My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

### **\*\*Fantasy/Adventure:**

*Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster

*Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

*Shane* by Jack Schaefer

\*These books are more challenging and contain mature content

\*\*Some of these books may contain language that some families might find objectionable. If this is a problem, I suggest parents read the book first if you think you may be offended.