

Dear Parents and Students,

Every year we change our summer reading list a bit. This year, we have changed some selections to attract a broader audience. There are two choices of texts per incoming class. Of course, we encourage students to read far more during the summer than our reading list requires. We believe, and know through research, that students take an “academic dip” over the summer (and have to play catch-up in the fall) if they don’t practice any learned skills. So, we encourage all families to visit the public library, check out books (for free!) and read over the summer months.

We, as an English department, expect that your student will read at least one of the following books over the summer. At the beginning of the school year, your child will be given an assignment or exam directly related to the books on the reading list.

We also ask – if you can – that you donate your summer reading book (and any other school-appropriate books) so that we may build up our classroom libraries. During the 2018-2019 school year, every child will be expected to read a book for at least ten minutes in all English, intervention, and reading classes – every time those classes meet. Why are we emphasizing reading so much? As educators and researchers, we know that **the single greatest factor in a student’s academic success is how much and how often he/she reads.** Reading does more to improve language skills, thinking skills, social skills, and test scores than any other single activity a student can perform. We believe in it and hope that through our combined efforts your child will become a lifelong reader and learner.

Thank you for your help in this endeavor. Enjoy your summer reading!

The English Department at Woodland Hills Academy.

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Dear Parents,

Please sign below to acknowledge your receipt of this summer reading list. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student’s Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

Students – please return this tear-off to your English teacher as soon as possible. Thank you.

WHA Summer Reading List 2018

From the appropriate column below, please choose one book to read. We encourage you to read the second book as well, but you will only be evaluated on your understanding of one of the books listed. Reading selections are listed according to your reading skills: struggling, good, or advanced. If you have any questions, please talk to your English teacher as soon as possible.

Enjoy your summer reading!

<b>Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Struggling Readers	Good Readers	Honors/Advanced Readers
<b>Freckle Juice</b> By Judy Blume	<b>All Shook Up: The Life and Death of Elvis Presley</b> By Barry Denenberg	<b>Bridge to Terabithia</b> By Katherine Paterson
<b>Double Fudge</b> By Judy Blume	<b>The Egypt Game</b> By Zilpha Keatley Snyder	<b>The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1)</b> By Rick Riordan

<b>Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Struggling Readers	Good Readers	Honors/Advanced Readers
<b>Snowman: The True Story of a Champion</b> By Catherine Hapka	<b>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</b> By Kelly Barnhill	<b>Sunrise Over Fallujah</b> By Walter Dean Myers
<b>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</b> By James L. Swanson	<b>Enrique's Journey: The True Story of a Boy Determined to Unite with His Mother</b> By Sonia Nazario	<b>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</b> By Sherman Alexie

<b>Entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Struggling Readers	Good Readers	Honors/Advanced Readers
<b>Matilda</b> By Roald Dahl	<b>Esperanza Rising</b> By Pam Munoz Ryan	<b>Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood</b> By Marjane Satrapi
<b>Cirque Du Freak</b> By Darren Shan	<b>Monster</b> By Walter Dean Myers	<b>Maus. 1: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History</b> By Art Spiegelman