

**2016 Summer Reading Requirements
For Students Entering Grade 7**



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MIDDLE SCHOOL

Foxborough, MA

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Summer is here and many students are looking forward to a break from schoolwork, but summer is not a time to take a break from reading! **Research tells us that when students don't read for two months their skills regress.** Research done at Harvard University by James Kim has shown that even reading 4 or 5 books over the summer helps to prevent the summer slide. Reading is a skill which requires practice, just like baseball or playing an instrument. Summer reading helps students of all ages keep their skills sharp so they are ready when school begins again in the fall.

All students are expected to read a minimum of **AT LEAST TWO BOOKS** over the summer, **ONE OF WHICH IS A REQUIRED TITLE FOR THEIR GRADE LEVEL.** The required read for each grade level is tied to the theme of treating others with respect and accepting differences. This minimum requirement of two books will count as a homework grade. In addition, during the first full week of school, all ELA classes will have a graded assignment based on the required summer reading book.

However, we are encouraging all students to read **beyond the minimum requirement and double their efforts by reading four books or more!** Any student who doubles his or her effort will have their name entered into a raffle to win \$50 in free books during the first Scholastic Book Fair of the year which will be held in November. One student from each grade level will be selected to win.

Wherever your summer days take you, bring along a good book and read, read, read!



Play by Play

1. **Students entering grade 7 in September are required to read Crash by Jerry Spinelli.**
2. After reading Crash, students are to complete the response page in their reading log.
3. Next, using the suggested summer reading list as a guide, students select at least one other book to read during the summer. (Feel free to select books that may not appear on the list).
4. For each book read, students will record the title and author, as well as a brief response. Their response can take any **one** of the following forms:
 - ❖ Write a brief summary of the book.
 - ❖ Write a book recommendation/critique, describing why someone may or may not be interested in reading that book.
 - ❖ Share your thoughts, a reaction, or a connection you made to a character or event in the story, or to the information you may have learned.
 - ❖ Draw or sketch a favorite or interesting part of the book.
5. Parents will sign on the line provided in the reading log for each book your child completes.
6. During the first week of school in the September, students will hand their reading logs in to their homeroom teachers.
7. Students who read a minimum of two books will receive credit for the first homework assignment. Students who read four or more books will be entered into a drawing to win \$50 in free books at the first Scholastic Book Fair to be held in November.

Additional Suggested Titles for Students Entering Grade 7

P [LC = Less Challenging C = Challenging MC = More Challenging]

Classics:

Scott O'Dell	Black Pearl, Island of the Blue Dolphins C
Robert Louis Stevenson	Kidnapped, Treasure Island, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde VC
Louisa May Alcott	Little Women VC
C.S. Lewis	Prince Caspian VC
Jules Verne	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea VC

Contemporary:

Gary Paulsen	The Foxman , LC
Joan Bauer	Rules of the Road, C
Caroline Cooney	Face on the Milk Carton, Whatever happened to Janie LC
Gary Soto	Wheels LC
Walter Dean Myers	Scorpions LC
Todd Strasser	The Wave LC
Sharon Creech	Chasing Redbird, Absolutely Normal Chaos C
Sharon Draper	Double Dutch LC
Jerry Spinelli	Stargirl C

Fantasy:

Ibboston	The Secret of Platform 13,	C
J.K.Rowling	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets,	C
Diana Wynne Jones	Howl's Moving Castle	C
Christopher Paolini	Eragon	C
Lois Lowry	Giver	C
Madelaine L'Engle	A Wrinkle in Time	VC
Louis Sacchar	Small Steps (Holes sequel)	C
Meg Cabot	Mediator Series	C
Brian Jacques	Redwall,	VC

Sci-Fi:

Ray Bradbury	Martian Chronicles, Illustrated Man	VC
Richard Peck	The Great Interactive Dream Machine	
Margaret Patterson-Haddix	Among the Hidden	C

Adventure/survival:

James Ramsey Ullman	Banner in the Sky,	C
Rick Steber	No End in Sight (blind dog sled racer- Non-fiction)	VC

Mystery:

John Feinstein	Last Shot	C
Lois Duncan	Don't Look Behind You(C) Ransom	
Joan Lowry Nixon	Whispers from the Dead (C), Playing for Keeps (set on Titanic)	
Anthony Horowitz	Skeleton Key, Point Blank	C

Historical Fiction:

Robin McKinley	Outlaws of Sherwood (Robin Hood Legend)	C
Walter Dean Myers	Harlem Summer (1920s)	C
Jerry Spinelli	Milkweed (Poland WWII)	C
Laurie Halse Anderson	Fever 1793	C
Christopher and Collier	My Brother Sam is Dead (Revolutionary War)	C
Carol Matas	Inside My Enemies House, Daniel's Story (WWII)	C
Johanna Reiss	Upstairs Room (WWII- family in hiding) (WWII)	C
Katherine Paterson	Lyddie (industrial revolution)	C
Howard Fast	April Morning (Revolutionary war)	VC
Irene Hunt	Across Five Aprils (Civil War)	VC

Sports:

Mike Lupica	Travel Team, Heat (deportation and Baseball)
	Miracle on 49 th Street LC
Carl Deuker	Painting the Black, Heart of a Champion C

Non-Fiction:

Ji-Li Jiang	Red Scarf Girl , (VC) young girl's life under Mao
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Author: _____

Parent Signature: _____

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