

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List for Summer 2015

All students are encouraged to read throughout the summer. Please keep a log of all that you read! You can download the *7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Log* from the library website, or create a journal of your own. **Students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade are to read at least 3 books:**

1. Please read the following book:

**Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Fever 1793*.** – In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

2. Choose 2 more books to read: at least one should be from the following list:

**Ahmedi, Farah. *The Other Side of the Sky: a Memoir*.** Farah Ahmedi, the victim of a land mine when she was just twelve years old, tells about her childhood in Afghanistan, a country trapped in war her entire life, and discusses the challenges she has faced as a result of losing her leg, and in trying to adapt to living in the United States.

**Allen, Thomas B. *George Washington, Spymaster: How America Outspied the British and Won the Revolutionary War*.** A biography of Revolutionary War general and first President of the United States, George Washington, focusing on his use of spies to gather intelligence that helped the colonies win the war.

**Armstrong, Jennifer. *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World*.** Describes the events of the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition when, after being trapped in a frozen sea for nine months, their ship, *Endurance*, was finally crushed, forcing Shackleton and his men to make a very long and perilous journey across ice and stormy seas to reach inhabited land.

**Bodeen, S.A. *The Raft*.** Robie loves traveling from the Midway Atoll where she lives with her parents, both researchers, to visit her aunt in Honolulu. She's taken the trip by cargo plane many times by herself, but when a storm hits mid-flight, Robie has to bail out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. With the storm still pouring water over them, the plane's copilot, Max, inflates the emergency raft and drags Robie to safety. On the raft with a man she doesn't know, over hundreds of miles of ocean, her problems really begin. Survival means patching up the leaking raft, staying hydrated, and avoiding the tiger shark that's following her.

**Boyce, Frank. *Cosmic*** Liam is a twelve-year-old kid who looks like he's about thirty. Sometimes it's not so bad, like when his new principal mistakes him for a teacher on the first day of school. But mostly it's just frustrating, being a kid trapped

in an adult world, so he decides to flip things around. Liam cons his way onto the first spaceship to take civilians into space!

**Creech, Sharon. *Wanderer*.** Thirteen-year-old Sophie and her cousin Cody record their transatlantic crossing aboard the *Wanderer*, a forty-five foot sailboat, which, along with uncles and another cousin, is en route to visit their grandfather in England.

**Funke, Cornelia. *Inkheart (series)*.** Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel "Inkheart" years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.

**Hale, Shannon. *Book of a Thousand Days or any of the Princess Academy series*.** Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.

**Howe, James. *The Misfits, Totally Joe, Addie on the Inside, or Also Known as Elvis*** In *The Misfits*, four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names. Each book in the series tells the story of one student.

**Jeter, Derek. *The Contract or Hit & Miss*.** As a young boy, Derek Jeter dreams of being the shortstop for the New York Yankees. He even imagines himself in the World Series. On the day of Little League assignments, Derek Starts at second base. He tries his best while he wishes and dreams of that shortstop spot. To help him stay focused on school, his parents make him a contract: keep up the grades or no baseball. Derek makes sure he always plays his best game—on and off the baseball field!

**Levine, Gail Carson. *Dave at Night*.** When Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys where he is treated cruelly, he sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music- and culture-filled world of the Harlem Renaissance. Or, ***Fairest***. - In the Kingdom of Ayortha, Aza, an unattractive woman with a magical voice, learns to balance her appearance with her talent; meanwhile, her singing attracts both Prince Ijori, who cannot resist it, and Queen Ivi, who plots to use it to benefit herself.

**London, Jack. *White Fang*.** The adventures in the northern wilderness of a dog that is part wolf and how he comes to make his peace with man. Or, ***The Call of the Wild***. - Buck, who is half St. Bernard and half Scotch shepherd, is abducted and

taken to the Klondike where he reverts to the wild and becomes a leader of a pack of wolves. **Or** any book by the author.

**Mass, Wendy. *A Mango-Shaped Space*.** Afraid that she is crazy, thirteen-year-old Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school, changing relationships, and the death of her beloved cat, Mango.

**Murphy, Jim. *A Young Patriot: The American Revolution As Experienced By One Boy*.** Joseph Plumb Martin, who enlisted in the summer of 1776 at the age of fifteen, details key battles and the life of a soldier during the American Revolution in this memoir retold by Jim Murphy.

**Paolini, Christopher. *Eragon*.** Eragon, a young farm boy, finds a marvelous blue stone in a mystical mountain place. Before he can trade it for food to get his family through the hard winter, it hatches a beautiful sapphire-blue dragon, a race thought to be extinct. Eragon bonds with the dragon, and when his family is killed by the marauding Ra'zac, he discovers that he is the last of the Dragon Riders Dwarves, elves, the diabolical Shades and their neanderthal Urgalls, are all pitted against and allied with each other and the evil King Galbatorix. Eragon and his dragon Saphira set out to find their role, growing in magic power and understanding of the complex political situation as they endure perilous travels and sudden battles, dire wounds, capture and escape.

**Schmidt, Gary D. *The Wednesday Wars*.** During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in. In the sequel, ***Okay for Now***, it tells Doug Swietich's seventh-grade year in 1960s Upstate New York. We first met Doug as the troublemaker in *The Wednesday Wars*. We are fortunate to get to know him better in this deeply moving, funny novel.

**Spinelli, Jerry. *Stargirl*.** In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever. Sequel: ***Love, Stargirl***.

**Stone, Tanya Lee. *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream*.** Presents the story of the thirteen women connected with NASA's Mercury 13 space mission, who braved prejudice and jealousy to make their mark and open the door for the female pilots and space commanders that would soon follow.

**Vogel, Heather. *The Mother-Daughter Book Club*. (Any title in the series)**  
What begins as a mom-imposed ritual of reading *Little Women* soon helps four

unlikely friends navigate the drama of middle school. From stolen journals, to secret crushes, to a fashion-fiasco first dance, these girls are up to their boots in drama.

**Weeks, Sarah. *So B. It.*** After spending her life with her mentally retarded mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada to New York to find out who she is.