

2019-2020 Summer Reading

Students Entering Grade 8

Each student entering 8th grade is required to read a minimum of three books this summer, two required books and one selected nonfiction book. The goals of summer reading are to build background knowledge for the 8th grade curriculum and to continue literary enrichment. Perform good notetaking (annotations) as you read, so you will be prepared for assessment in September.

Students must read the following TWO books and be prepared for an in-class assessment in September.

1. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
2. *The Penderwicks* by Jeanne Birdsall

For annotating these two books, focus on the following:

- Similarities and differences of the two books in the areas of setting, characters, and plot.
- Characterization of the sisters in each book. Identify one character trait for each of the sisters in each of the books and be prepared to provide evidence from the book to support each trait.

Students must read at least ONE self-selected nonfiction book and be prepared to complete an in-class project in September.

For annotating this book, focus on the following:

- List or note the main chronology of the book.
- Determine the author's purpose for writing the book or the message that the author conveyed.