

St. Matthew School

Summer Reading List

2011 – 2012

The St. Mathew summer reading list is identified below. All Middle School students need to spend part of summer vacation reading these novels. There is one required novel for each grade level. Each student is required to read two additional books offered for his or her grade level. Read the complete text of the selected novel. Do not use an abridged edition. Additional reading is definitely encouraged. If time permits, family discussions of the novel are encouraged. It is hoped that the summer reading will encourage all students to continue to develop a life- long love of learning.

The 2011 – 2012 school year will begin with writings and assessments on each assigned novel. Students need to keep all organized notes in a single notebook. These comprehension notes will be collected on the first day of school. A specific rubric for note taking is attached. Use the rubric when taking notes.

Please Note: The comprehension notes need to be legible. This is an excellent time to practice penmanship. Remember, this assignment is based on an honor system. If you have read one of these books, please select a different option for your summer reading assignment. Thank you.

6th Grade

Philbrick, *Freak the Mighty*

Required Reading

7th Grade

Hinton, *The Outsiders*

8th Grade

Christie, *And Then There Were None*

Suggested Reading

Select Two

6th Grade

Bloor, *Tangerine*

Colfer, *Artemis Fowl*

Creech, *Bloomability*

Gibson, *The Miracle Worker*

Lowry, *The Giver*

Lupica, *Heat*

Stevenson, *Treasure Island*

7th Grade

Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*

Dumas, *The Count of Monte Cristo*

Farmer, *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm*

Feinstein, *Last Shot*

Frank, *The Diary of Anne Frank*

Miller, *The Crucible*

Steinbeck, *The Pearl*

8th Grade

Bronte, *Jane Eyre*

Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*

Deuker, *Night Hoops*

Keyes, *Flowers for Algernon*

Pittman, *Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*

Orwell, *1984*

Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*

Tolkien, *The Hobbit*

Summer Reading List

Rubric for Notes

Use the rubric as an outline for taking notes on required summer reading. Write all notes in complete sentences. All notes must be placed in one notebook. Please use a separate section of the notebook for each novel or play you read. All notebooks are due on the first day of school. Remember: This is also an opportunity to practice your penmanship. Thank you.

I. Chapter Notes: Identify the characters, plot, themes, and symbols in each chapter of the novel or in each act of the play.

II. Novel

- A. Author and Title
- B. Publisher and Date of Publication

III. Major Characters

- C. Names of Major Characters
- D. Descriptions of Major Characters

IV. Minor Characters

- A. Names of Minor Characters
- B. Descriptions of Minor Characters

V. Setting

- E. Location of Setting
- F. Time Period

VI. Narrative Point of View: Who is telling the story?

- G. Identify the Narrator

VII. Major Themes

- A. Identify Major Themes
- B. Explain Major Themes

VIII. Conflicts

- A. Identify Major Conflicts
- B. Explain Major Conflicts

IX. Symbols

- A. Identify Important Symbols
- B. Explain Important Symbols

X. Plot Notes

- A. Exposition
- B. Conflict
- C. Rising Action
- D. Climax
- E. Resolution

XI. Personal Recommendation of Novel

- A. Will you encourage another student to read this book? Why or why not? Include specific reasons and examples to support your recommendation. Include 5 – 7 sentences in a well written paragraph