

Our Lady of Mount Carmel School
Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Recommended Summer Reading 2024
Sixth Grade Entering Seventh Grade

REQUIRED READING - *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

Upon return to school, students should be prepared to complete a classroom activity that correlates with the required reading.

Read at least one of the books from the list below. Choose according to the first letter of your **LAST** name. Each student is required to complete a **Summer Reading Book Report** about this book. Open the link on the Summer Reading page, *Summer Reading Book Report Grade 5-8*, and print it out. Complete and bring the report to school with you on the first day.

Last Name: A - L

***1919 The Year That Changed America* by Martin W. Sandler** 1919 was a world-shaking year. America was recovering from World War I and black soldiers returned to racism so violent that that summer would become known as the Red Summer. The suffrage movement had a long-fought win when women gained the right to vote. Laborers took to the streets to protest working conditions; nationalistic fervor led to a communism scare; and temperance gained such traction that prohibition went into effect. Each of these movements reached a tipping point that year. National Book Award Winner ©2019 Grade Level 7-8

***All Battles End at Sunset* by Jared Acuña** Twelve-year-old orphan boy Marcel finds himself caught up in the action when he joins legendary sea captain Jean Ribault and his crew of French Freedom fighters known as the Huguenots, searching for a haven for the persecuted of Europe. Together, they set sail for Florida — where mysterious Native Timucuan watch from the palm trees, and dragon-like alligators lurk in the swamps only to be hunted down by the life Marcel and the Huguenots all thought they could escape. ©2023 Grade Level 7-8

***The Alchemist* by Paul Coelho** Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago, who travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of a treasure buried near the Pyramids. NBDB National Book Awards Nominee for Translation, Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman, Premio Grinzane Cavour for Narrativa Straniera, Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Belletristik ©2014 Grade Level 7-8

***Among The Hidden* by Margaret Peterson Haddix** Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend. Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, with a new housing development replacing the woods next to his family's farm, he is no longer even allowed to go outside. ©1998 Grade Level 7-8

March 21, 2024

***Beverly, Right Here* by Kate DiCamillo** Beverly Tapinski has run away from home plenty of times, but that was when she was just a kid. By now, she figures, it's not running away. It's leaving. Determined to make it on her own, Beverly finds a job and a place to live and tries to forget about her dog, Buddy, now buried underneath the orange trees back home; her friend Raymie, whom she left without a word; and her mom, Rhonda, who has never cared about anyone but herself. Beverly doesn't want to depend on anyone, and she definitely doesn't want anyone to depend on her. ©2023 Grade Level 7-8

***Everything Sad Is Untrue: (a true story)* by Daniel Nayeri** "A patchwork story is the shame of the refugee," Nayeri writes early in the novel. In an Oklahoman middle school, Khosrou (whom everyone calls Daniel) stands in front of a skeptical audience of classmates, telling the tales of his family's history, stretching back years, decades, and centuries. At the core is Daniel's story of how they became refugees—starting with his mother's vocal embrace of Christianity in a country that made such a thing a capital offense, and continuing through their midnight flight from the secret police, bribing their way onto a plane-to-anywhere. Anywhere becomes the sad, cement refugee camps of Italy, and then finally asylum in the U.S. Implementing a distinct literary style and challenging western narrative structures, Nayeri deftly weaves through stories of the long and beautiful history of his family in Iran. Michael L. Printz Award, Christopher Award Winner ©2020 Grade Level 8-9

***Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson** It's late summer 1793, and the streets of Philadelphia are abuzz with mosquitoes and rumors of fever. Down near the docks, many have taken ill, and the fatalities are mounting. Now they include Polly, the serving girl at the Cook Coffeehouse. South Carolina Book Award Nominee for Junior Book, Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award Nominee for Sundogs, Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award Nominee ©2002 Grade Level 8-9

***Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz** September 11, 2001, New York City: Brandon is visiting his dad at work, on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center. Out of nowhere, an airplane slams into the tower, creating a fiery nightmare of terror and confusion. And Brandon is in the middle of it all. Can he survive -- and escape? September 11, 2019, Afghanistan: Reshmina has grown up in the shadow of war, but she dreams of peace and progress. When a battle erupts in her village, Reshmina stumbles upon a wounded American soldier named Taz. Should she help Taz -- and put herself and her family in mortal danger? ©2021 Grade Level 7-8

***Homecoming* by Cynthia Voigt** Liza Tillerman leaves her children in a mall parking lot, telling the three younger ones to mind Dicey, the oldest at 13. They wait in their car overnight, but when their mother doesn't return, Dicey decides they must walk some sixty miles to find an aunt, the only relative they know of. National Book Award Finalist ©2012 Grade Level 7-8

***Loyalty* by Avi** When his father is killed by rebel vigilantes, Noah flees with his family to Boston. Intent on avenging his father, Noah becomes a spy for the British and firsthand witness to the power of partisan rumor to distort facts, the hypocrisy of men who demand freedom while enslaving others, and the human connections that bind people together regardless of stated allegiances. ©2022 Grade Level 6-7

Last Name: M - Z

***The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity* by Nicholas Day** Travel back to an extraordinary period of revolutionary change: turn-of-the-century Paris. Walk its backstreets. Meet the infamous thieves—and detectives—of the era. And then slip back further in time and follow Leonardo da Vinci, painter of the Mona Lisa, through his dazzling, wondrously weird life. Discover the secret at the heart of the Mona Lisa—the most famous painting in the world should never have existed at all. Sibert Medal Winner ©2023 Grade Level 7-8

***Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow* by Jessica Townsend** Morrigan Crow is cursed. Having been born on Eventide, the unluckiest day for any child to be born, she's blamed for all local misfortunes, from hailstorms to heart attacks--and, worst of all, the curse means that Morrigan is doomed to die at midnight on her eleventh birthday. But as Morrigan awaits her fate, a strange and remarkable man named Jupiter North appears. Chased by black-smoke hounds and shadowy hunters on horseback, he whisks her away into the safety of a secret, magical city called Nevermoor. ©2017 Grade Level 7-8

***The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani** It's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders. Newbery Honor Book, Walter Dean Myers Honor Winner ©2018 Grade Level 7-8

***The Radium Girls : The Scary But True Story of the Poison That Made People Glow in the Dark* by Kate Moore** Amid the excitement of the early twentieth century, hundreds of young women spend their days hard at work painting watch dials with glow-in-the-dark radium paint. The painters consider themselves lucky—until they start suffering from a mysterious illness. As the corporations try to cover up a shocking secret, these shining girls suddenly find themselves at the center of a deadly scandal. ©2020 Grade Level 7-8

***Riding Chance* by Christine Kendall Troy** is a kid with a passion. And dreams. And wanting to do the right thing. But after taking a wrong turn, he's forced to endure something that's worse than any juvenile detention he can imagine—he's "sentenced" to the local city stables where he's made to take care of horses. ©2016 Grade Level 6–8

***Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt** Delsie loves tracking the weather--lately, though, it seems the squalls are in her own life. She's always lived with her kindhearted Grammy, but now she's looking at their life with new eyes and wishing she could have a "regular family." Delsie observes other changes in the air, too--the most painful being a friend who's outgrown her. ©2019 Grade Level 6-7

***Strongheart Wonder Dog of the Silver Screen* by Candace Fleming** Based on a true story, this absorbing novel from the duo behind *Giant Squid* and other books introduces Strongheart, a German shepherd that worked as a police dog in Germany until his discovery by Hollywood director Larry Trimble in the early 1920s. ©2018 Grade Level 7

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***Troublemaker* by John Cho** It's 1992 in Glendale, California, and Jordan's life is coming apart: He's been suspended from school for cheating. He's banned from seeing Mike, his impulsive church friend. Sarah, his adored older sister, is always busy—and so perfect that he looks even more disappointing by comparison. Appa and Umma, burdened with financial worries, are constantly working at their liquor store. Jordan's family immigrated 9 years earlier, but the bright American future they sacrificed so much for seems questionable. Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Honor Book ©2022 Grade Level 7-8

***We Dream of Space* by Erin Entrada Kelly** Cash, Fitch, and Bird Nelson Thomas are three siblings in seventh grade together in Park, Delaware. In 1986, as the country waits expectantly for the launch of the space shuttle *Challenger*, they each struggle with their own personal anxieties. Cash, who loves basketball but has a newly broken wrist, is in danger of failing seventh grade for the second time. Fitch spends every afternoon playing *Major Havoc* at the arcade on Main and wrestles with an explosive temper that he doesn't understand. And Bird, his twelve-year-old twin, dreams of being NASA's first female shuttle commander, but feels like she's disappearing. Newbery Honor Book ©2020 Grade Level 6-7