

# Vineland Public Charter School

## Summer Reading

### Incoming Grade 7

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As the 2017-2018 school year draws to a close, it is my pleasure to present to you our 2018 Summer Reading Assignment. Summer reading is an important activity for your child's intellectual growth and development. It encourages students to continue learning while still providing them with fun and enjoyment. What helps make reading entertaining for children is allowing them the freedom to choose books that speak to their unique interests.

Vineland Public Charter School students entering grade 7 are required to choose TWO (2) books, from the list provided, complete the "Summer Reading Information Sheet" for both books, and choose ONE (1) project to complete from the list below.

**DUE DATE:** ALL projects will be due **Wednesday, September 5th** and will count towards a project grade for the first quarter for the 2018-19 school year.

*\*\*\*If you have any questions, please contact your child's current teacher prior to June 27<sup>th</sup>.*

*This information will be available on our school website for the duration of the summer.*

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#### **SUMMER READING DIRECTIONS:**

1. READ A MINIMUM OF *TWO* BOOKS SELECTED FROM THE ATTACHED LIST.
2. COMPLETE AN INFORMATION SHEET FOR EACH BOOK (Found on the last pages of this packet.)
3. COMPLETE ONE PROJECT BASED ON ONE OR BOTH BOOKS.

For the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment, we have compiled a list of novels, many recommended by students, with a variety of reading levels and subject matter. I encourage all students and their parents or guardians review this list before making their book selection. Most books are readily available and can be checked out from your local library (1058 E Landis Ave, Vineland, NJ 08360). After reading the books, students will complete the information sheet about each book. Finally, students will create a project inspired from their reading. Carefully review the criteria and the variety of project suggestions that are provided. All students will have the opportunity to present their projects during the first week of school in September. Projects will count as a project grade for the 1<sup>st</sup> term. All projects are due to your homeroom teacher by **Wednesday, September 5th.**

#### **PROJECT SUGGESTIONS**

- Comic Book - Write a comic book version of the book.
- Children's Story - Turn the book(s) you read into a children's story with illustrations.
- Educational Packet - Create an educational packet with classroom activities.
- Review - Write a review; include your opinions and recommendations.
- Journal - Write a journal about the main characters experiences.
- Model - Create a "to scale" model about your book.
- News Story - Write a front- page news story about an important incident from the book. *Make sure to include the "who, what, where, when, and why" in your opening. Then draw a "photo" to accompany your story.*
- Board Game - Create a board game or computer game based on characters or events from the book. Include clearly written instructions, and any game pieces needed to play.
- Cast Characters - Put together a cast for the film version of the book. Explain why you selected each cast member.
- Collage - Using words and pictures cut out magazines, newspapers, as well as paint or draw to create a collage illustrating the plot, theme, characters, or setting from the book.
- Video/ Commercial Record and create a video about the book.

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Dear Seventh Grade Reader,

The summer is a time when most of us take a break from school, but we shouldn't take a break from reading. Please look over this extensive list and select two books from the summer reading list on the following pages.

Happy Reading!

#### **Book List**

London, Jack – White Fang

*Jack London's famous tale of dogs, the wilderness, and the fight for survival.*

Montgomery, Lucy M. - Anne of Green Gables Series

*Eleven-year old Anne is a feisty young girl who must find a way to win the right to stay at Green Gables. Her adventurous spirit leads her through many mishaps and growing experiences as each book in the series shows her progression.*

Rawls, Wilson - Where the Red Fern Grows

*The exciting adventures of a young boy and his two coonhounds, Little Anne and Old Dan, unfold in this heartwarming story.*

Stevenson, Robert Louis - Treasure Island

*A beloved classic about pirates, buried treasure, and buccaneers.*

Anderson, Laurie Halse - Fever, 1793

*During the summer of 1793, fever breaks out in Philadelphia. Fourteen-year-old Mattie Cook, who lives with her mother and grandfather at the coffee shop they own, is forced to flee the city to avoid the sickness. She encounters problems along the way, and is forced to make some grown-up decisions to save her family and the business.*

De Soto, Gary - Baseball in April

*A collection of eleven short stories focusing on everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California.*

Hiaasen, Carl - Scat

*During a field trip, a wildfire breaks out, and much feared science teacher Mrs. Starch vanishes. The school gets a letter stating she is away on a family emergency, but no one believes that. There is suspicion that bad boy Duane "Smoke" Scroud is to blame for both the fire and disappearance. A funny, environmentally savvy thriller. Other books by Carl Hiaasen Flush, Hoot, and Chomp.*

Park, Linda Sue - Project Mulberry

*This delightful book explores prejudice, patriotism, and conservation within a family and friendship story that keeps you engaged throughout the book.*

Spinelli, Jerry - Maniac Magee

*Jeffrey "Maniac" Magee is orphaned and finds himself in Two Mills, where he becomes a local legend while trying to find a home. He has amazing athletic abilities, runs everywhere he goes, and is allergic to pizza. Innocently, he crosses between the two segregated parts of the town, the White East end and the Black West end, making friends and enemies in both.*

Urban, Linda - A Crooked Kind of Perfect

*A sweet and poignant story about a girl's dream of becoming a concert pianist and the reality that she must embrace.*

Jeanne Duprau - City of Ember

*In the year 241, 12-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions. Continue following the future adventures in the rest of this 4-part series.*

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Rowling, J.K – Harry Potter Series

*After 10 miserable years with his aunt and uncle, Harry Potter is invited to attend Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Each book follows another year in Harry's education while more of his frightening destiny is revealed.*

Bloor, Edward - Tangerine

*When a boy who is legally blind moves to a new town, he uses his inner senses to overcome his disability and succeed at soccer.*

Dent, Jim - Twelve Mighty Orphans

*In this true account, the author tells the story of Coach Rusty Russell and how he molded a group of orphans from Fort Worth, Texas, into one of the toughest football teams in the state. The Mighty Mites, as they came to be known, reached the Texas state semi-finals three times and the championship once.*

FitzGerald, Dawn - Soccer Chick Rules

*When the middle school threatens to stop funding sports programs, Tess takes quick action to protect the games she loves.*

Hobbs, Will - Leaving Protection

*After landing a desired job on a fishing vessel, a 16-year-old boy must face a captain who will do anything to find a buried treasure, and Mother Nature who tries to throw them off course.*

Herriot, James - All Creatures Great and Small

*A delightful collection of the adventures of an English veterinarian. A must read for animal lovers!*

Tougas, Mike - The Finest Hours: The True Story of a Heroic Sea Rescue

*On the night of February 18, 1952, during one of the worst winter storms that New England has ever seen, two oil tankers just off the shore of Cape Cod were torn in half by the force of the storm. This is the story of the harrowing Coast Guard rescue on how four men in a tiny boat overcame insurmountable odds to save more than 30 stranded sailors in the middle of a Nor'easter.*

Choldenko, Gennifer - Al Capone Shines My Shoes

*In the sequel to Al Capone Does My Shirts, Moose Flanagan, who lives on Alcatraz along with his family and the families of the other prison guards, is frightened when he discovers that noted gangster Al Capone, a prisoner there, wants a favor in return for the help that he secretly gave Moose. (YA FIC Choldenko, YAP Cho & AUD CD YA FIC Choldenko)*

Collins, Suzanne - Gregor the Overlander

*When 11-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy. (J FIC Collins & J AUD CD FIC Collins)*

Flanagan, John - Ruins of Gorlan

*When 15-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger. This is the first book in the Ranger's Apprentice series. (J FIC Flanagan)*

Gaiman, Neil - Graveyard Book

*Nobody Owens is a normal boy, except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard. (J FIC Gaiman)*

Flores-Galbis - 90 Miles to Havana

*When unrest hits the streets of Havana, Cuba, Julian's parents must make the heartbreaking decision to send him and his two brothers away to Miami via the Pedro Pan operation. But when the boys get to Miami, they are thrust into a world where bullies seem to run rampant and it's not always clear how best to protect themselves. (J FIC Flores-Galbis)*

Funke, Cornelia - Reckless

*Jacob and Will Reckless have looked out for each other ever since their father disappeared, but when Jacob discovers a magical mirror that transports him to a warring world populated by witches, giants, and ogres, he keeps it to himself until Will follows him one day, with dire consequences. (J FIC Funke & J AUD CD FIC Funke)*

Gutman, Dan - Honus and Me

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*When Joe Stoshack gets a job cleaning old Miss Young's attic, he's not too happy about it. The place is filled with tons of worthless trash, and he's only getting paid \$5 for hauling it out. Suddenly Joe finds a little piece of cardboard. He's holding the world's most valuable baseball card. Joe is rich—really rich—but it's more than that. Suddenly, Joe is face-to-face with the player on the card. He's able to travel through time with one of the greatest ballplayers who ever lived. If you have a favorite baseball player, try one of Dan Gutman's other Baseball Card Adventure books: Jim & Me; Satch & Me; Abner & Me; Shoeless Joe & Me; Mickey & Me; Babe & Me; or Jackie & Me (J FIC Gutman)*

Downing Hahn, Mary - All the Lovely Bad Ones

*After learning their grandmother's inn is haunted, Travis and Corey decide to do some "haunting" of their own. Before long, their supernatural pranks have tourists flocking to the inn. They soon learn that they aren't the only "ghosts" at the inn. Their pranks have awoken the local ghosts who refuse to "rest in peace." (J FIC Hahn)*

Hesse, Karen - Out of the Dust

*In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression. (J FIC Hesse, JPB H & J AUD CD FIC Hesse)*

Hoose, Phillip - Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice

*Nine months before Rosa Parks triggered the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, by refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin let herself be arrested and dragged off the bus for the same reason. Colvin played a central role in the city's civil rights drama, but her story has been largely lost to history. (J 323.092 Hoo)*

Binny for Short by Hilary McKay

*Eleven-year-old Binny struggles to cope with her father's death and the loss of her beloved dog while she adjusts to a new home that might be haunted by her horrible Aunt Violet. (J FIC McKay)*

Reynolds Naylor, Phyllis - Faith, Hope and Ivy June

*Ivy June Mosley and Catherine Combs participate in a school exchange program where each girl spends two weeks in the other's home and school. Ivy June, who lives in the mountains of Kentucky where most of the residents have no phone service or bathrooms and many of the men work in the coal mines, spends two weeks in Lexington at Catherine Comb's middle class house and goes to her private girls' school. The two overcome many stereotypes and become very good friends. (JPB N & J AUD CD FIC Naylor)*

Maximum Ride series by James Patterson

*Meet 14-year-old Maximum Ride, or Max for short, and the rest of her flock, Fang, Iggy, Nudge, Gasman and Angel in book one, Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment. Max and her flock are just like ordinary kids, only they have wings and can fly. After the mutant Erasers abduct Angel, the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose. (YA FIC Patterson)*

Red Pyramid, The by Rick Riordan

*Egyptologist Dr. Julius Kane accidentally unleashes the Egyptian god Set, who banishes the doctor to oblivion and forces his two children to embark on a dangerous journey to save him. (J FIC Riordan)*

Serpent's Shadow, The by Rick Riordan

*Carter and Sadie prepare for the ultimate confrontation with the chaos snake Apophis at the same time the House of Life magicians launch a civil war, compelling the Kanes to tap the power of an ancient spell in the third book of The Kane Chronicles. (J FIC Riordan)*

Throne of Fire, The by Rick Riordan

*In the sequel to The Red Pyramid, Carter Kane and his sister must prevent the chaos snake Apophis from breaking free in a few days' time or the world will come to an end. To have any chance of battling these Forces of Chaos, the Kanes must revive the sun god Ra. (J FIC Riordan)*

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Schwa Was Here, The by Neal Shusterman

*A Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is tired of blending into his surroundings and going unnoticed by nearly everyone. (J FIC Shusterman & J AUD CD FIC Shusterman)*

Countdown by Deborah Wiles

*The fearful events of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis are witnessed by 11-year-old Franny, who finds her life and perspectives changing throughout the course of a week that is also marked by difficult family issues. (YA FIC Wiles & AUD CD YA FIC Wiles)*

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**SUMMER READING INFORMATION SHEET**

Directions: Please complete an information sheet for EACH of the books you selected for Summer Reading.

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF BOOK \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHOR \_\_\_\_\_

1. Do you think the title fits the book? Why or why not? Can you think of a better title?
  
2. Choose one of these two starters and complete it below: If I could be any character in the book, I would be \_\_\_\_\_ because... or When I finished the book I still wondered ....
  
3. How did the book relate to you? Was there a favorite chapter, or quote that appealed to you? Did you learn something new? Explain.
  
4. What is the opening sentence in the book? How does it relate to the book?
  
5. Was there a connection between the two books you read?

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