

LONDONDERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

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SUMMER 2015 READING SUGGESTIONS

The following is a list of titles which will be included in the 2015 summer book discussion groups (plus a few additional titles). Whether a student is joining a book discussion group or choosing one of the other available reading options for the middle school summer reading program, this is a GREAT list of books! More information about the summer reading program can be viewed on the Library CyberGuide (web address above) or the principal's office on the LMS home page.

Enjoy your summer!

Paula Chessin and Caitlin Ahearn, LMS Librarians

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The 5th Wave by Rick Yancey

Cassie, sixteen, prepares herself for the fifth wave of aliens, the final takeover, fearing that *she may* be all that's left of humanity. She's alone until she meets "very good-looking" Evan Walker, and together they must figure out how to fight back. Yancey vividly portrays Cassie's existential crisis in a broken world: how to live, why to live, and what to care about.

The Ables by Jeremy Scott

Phillip Sallinger's dad has told him he's a custodian--a guardian--and his genetically inherited power is telekinesis. He'll learn to move objects with his mind. Excited to begin superhero high school until he discovers he's assigned to a "special ed" class for disabled empowered kids, he suddenly feels like an outsider. Bullied, threatened, and betrayed, Phillip struggles, even as he and his friends--calling themselves the Ables--find ways to maximize their powers to overcome their disabilities, and are the first to identify the growing evil threatening humanity.

Cardboard by Doug TenNapel

Cam's down-and-out father gives him a cardboard box for his birthday and he knows it's the worst present ever. So to make the best of a bad situation, they bend the cardboard into a man-and to their astonishment, it comes magically to life. But the neighborhood bully, Marcus, warps the powerful cardboard into his own evil creations that threaten to destroy them all! (Graphic Novel)

Counting by 7's by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now. Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. The triumph of this book is that it is *not* a tragedy

Edison's Alley by Neal Shusterman

14-year-old Nick discovers important artifacts in his attic left by genius scientist Nikola Tesla. The items are part of Tesla's Free Range Energy Emitter, which could change the way the world uses energy. However, he must find the missing items needed to finish Tesla's contraption before a group of sinister scientists steal them for their own gain.

Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell

It's the start of a new school year in 1986 Omaha when sophomores Eleanor and Park meet for the first time on the bus. They are an unusual pair: she's the new girl in town, an ostracized, bullied "big girl" with bright red curly hair, freckles, and an odd wardrobe; he's a skinny half-Korean townie who mostly wears black and tries to stay out of the spotlight. But as they sit together on the school bus every day, an intimacy gradually develops between them. At first they don't talk; then she reads his comics with him; he makes her mixtapes of his favorite rock bands; they hold hands; and eventually they are looking for ways to spend every waking hour together.

The Final Four by Paul Valponi

A much-anticipated Final Four basketball game is played by the underdog Troy University Trojans and the Michigan State Spartans. As the nerve-racking game unfolds, flashbacks, newspaper articles, interviews, and journal entries introduce readers to four players and their previous struggles and successes

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of

Flora and Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo

Ten-year-old Flora Belle Buckman's life changes when she resuscitates a squirrel after his near-death experience with her neighbor's Ulysses 2000X vacuum. Flora discovers that the incident has caused the squirrel, whom she also names Ulysses, to acquire superpowers. Despite being a "natural-born cynic," Flora's lively imagination and love of comics such as *The Illuminated Adventures of the Amazing Incandesto!* help her believe that Ulysses is bound for superhero greatness.

Flush by Carl Hiaasen

Noah and his sister, Abbey, are more understanding of their volatile dad's latest arrest than their mother, who begins talking of divorce. Dad sank the Coral Queen, a casino boat on a Florida Key because, he alleges, its owner, Dusty Muleman, has been illegally dumping raw sewage into the local waters. Soon enough the kids begin trying to gather proof that will vindicate their father and put the casino out of business.

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick

Max is learning-disabled and unusually large for his age; brilliant Kevin's birth defect prevents him from growing. Together the two become "Freak the Mighty," pooling their brains and brawn to conquer their world. The harrowing events of Max's childhood are revealed gradually, as he is able to face them.

Holes by Louis Sachar

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

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I Will Always Write Back by Martin Ganda

In this compelling dual memoir, Caitlin and Martin recount how they became best friends --and better people--through their long-distance exchange. Their story will inspire you to look beyond your own life and wonder about the world at large and your place in it.

Masterminds by Gordon Korman

Eli has never left Serenity . . . Why would he ever want to? Then one day he bikes to the edge of the city limits and something so crazy and unexpected happens, it changes everything. Eli convinces his friends to help him investigate further, and soon it becomes clear that nothing is as it seems in Serenity. The clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, connecting their ideal crime-free community to some of the greatest criminal masterminds ever known. The kids realize they can trust no one--least of all their own parents.

Okay for Now by Gary Schmidt

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including an abusive father, a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers, and isolation. When he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library.

Positive by Paige Rawl

Paige Rawl was like any other child growing up in the Midwest, except that she was born HIV positive. When she mentions this to a 6th grade friend, that person spreads the rumor that Paige has AIDS. Rawl reveals how her classmates taunted her and how the teachers and administrators in her school turned their backs on her. The bullying was so awful that her mother pulled her out of school and homeschooled her. Rawl turned her life around and became a spokeswoman for kids with HIV.

Schooled by Gordon Korman

Capricorn, 13, lives with his hippie grandmother on a farm commune. He's never been to school, never watched TV, and doesn't even own a phone. When Rain falls out of a tree while picking plums and is sent to rehab for several weeks, Cap stays with a social worker and is sent to the local junior high school. There he is introduced to iPods, cell phones, spit balls, and harassment.

Skink No Surrender by Carl Hiaasen

When your cousin goes missing under suspicious circumstances, who do you call? There's only one man for the job: a half-crazed, half-feral, one-eyed ex-governor named Skink. Skink joins 14-year-old Richard on a breakneck chase across Florida, undaunted by lightning storms, poisonous snakes, flying bullets, and giant gators.

Summer Ball by Mike Lupica

This novel continues the story of Danny Walker, the basketball-obsessed hero of Travel Team. In the interval between the two books, the 13-year-old and his friends went on to win the travel-team championship. Now that they are heading off to summer basketball camp, Danny is feeling the pressure of being number one. He plays as well as ever, but he's still the smallest boy on the court and anxiously hoping for a growth spurt.

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

During the six days it takes Sal's paternal grandparents to drive her west to Idaho in time for her mother's birthday, she tells them about her friend Phoebe -- a story that, the 13-year-old comes to realize, in many ways parallels her own: Each girl had a mother who left home without warning.

The Wednesday War by Gary D. Schmidt

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hood 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.

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. They could become millionaires, depending on how they play the tricky and dangerous Westing game, which involves blizzards, burglaries, and bombings.

Wild by Cheryl Strayed

Cheryl Strayed recounts the impact of her mother's death on her life at age twenty-two and chronicles her experiences after she made the impulsive decision to hike the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert all the way into Washington State.

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunts and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

You Remind me of You a poetry memoir by Eireann Corrigan
Struggling for years with eating disorders, in and out of treatment facilities, Eireann Corrigan is teetering on the brink of no return. In this heart-rending poetry memoir, author Eireann Corrigan takes a breathtakingly honest look at herself as she winds her way through profoundly difficult times.

These aren't part of the summer book discussions but would make a great summer read.....

Drama by Raina Telgemeier

Callie loves the theater, even if she can't sing well enough to perform in her beloved musicals. But when drama and romance--both onstage and off--cause problems, Callie finds that set design may be the easiest part of putting on a play. (Graphic Novel)

The Fourth Stall by Chris Rylander

Do you need something? Mac can get it for you. He and his best friend and business manager, Vince. Their methods might sometimes run afoul of the law, or at least the school code of conduct, but if you have a problem, if no one else can help, and if you can pay him, Mac is on your side.

Paper Things by Jennifer Richards Jacobson

Nineteen-year-old Gage decides he can no longer live with a bossy guardian, and runs off with his little sister Ari. The two struggle to find a place to live and to get Ari into the middle school for gifted students they promised their mother she'd get into.

Heap House by Edward Carey

The first book in this trilogy series, Young Clod is an Iremonger. He lives at Heap House, his family's mansion at the center of the Heaps, a vast sea of lost and discarded items whose ever-shifting masses have been known to swallow people alive. The Iremongers are an odd old family, each the owner of a Birth Object they must keep with them at all times.

