

It is time to plan for summer reading!

Below you will find our summer reading list and order form. Take advantage of our bulk order pricing by placing your order through the school. **Several changes have been made** to our summer reading list, so **please look carefully at class requirements.**

Summer reading is a vital component of the curriculum at St. Mary's School. It provides pleasure and broadens a teenager's experiences. Students who read as a source of both intellectual stimulation and overall relaxation are likely to become lifelong readers. Those who read over the summer months are more articulate speakers and more graceful writers. Returning to school in August is much easier for those who have maintained the habit of responsive reading during the summer. Summer reading provides time not available during the school year to read classics that expand cultural literacy and prepares students for thoughtful discussion and writing beginning the first day of class.

**Your student should have a copy of each book on the "required" reading list**, including required reading for the **Upper School electives**: Biology, AP Biology, Creative Writing, Entrepreneurial Leadership, Human Anatomy & Physiology, and Modern China. Modern Middle East has suggested reading. "Suggested" titles are optional and may be read for enrichment and valuable background for next fall's classes.

Please note that Middle School students, Freshmen, and Sophomores have **both** specific required reading and required reading options from a list. Descriptions are available on-line at [www.smschool.us](http://www.smschool.us) under Student Life/ Forms and Resources to help students choose appropriately.

**To order books from St. Mary's**, simply download the order form and turn it in to school with your choices and a check for the total amount due **by April 30, 2010**. Students will receive their book orders on the last day of school in June. Remember to take a good look around school before leaving for the summer as books are often left in the Lost & Found after lockers are cleaned out at the end of the year.

Contact Claircy Boggess in the library or Lesley Klecan in the Middle School if you have any questions.

## Happy Reading!

### Grade 6

**Required:**

*The Coming of the Bear*  
by Lensey Namioka

### Grade 7

**Required:**

*Three Cups of Tea (Young Reader's Edition)*  
by Greg Mortenson & David Relin

*Aladdin and other tales from the Arabian Nights*  
retold by NJ Dawood

### Grade 8

**Required:**

*Under the Blood Red Sun*  
by Graham Salisbury

*Fever 1793*  
by Laurie Anderson

### Grades 6, 7, 8

### Choice Books (choose two)

Middle School students are required to choose TWO of the following books to read in addition to their required grade level texts. A morning will be set aside, within the first two weeks of school, for students to participate in book groups—complete with discussions and activities—for their choice books. Look on-line for descriptions.

*The House of the Scorpion*  
by Nancy Farmer

*Al Capone Does My Shirts*  
by Gennifer Choldenko

*Airborn*  
by Kenneth Oppel

*Bull Run*  
by Paul Fleischman

*A Wind in the Door*  
by Madeline L'Engle

*The Goose Girl*  
by Shannon Hale

*The Blue Sword*  
by Robin McKinley

*The Westing Game*  
by Ellen Raskin

*Uglies* (any in the series)  
by Sam Westerfeld



**Grade 9**

**Required:**

*Gifts*  
by Ursula Le Guin

**Additionally, freshmen are required to read any ONE of the following:**

*Book of the Lion*  
by Michael Cadnum

*Ben Hur: A Tale of Christ*  
by Lew Wallace

*The King's Shadow*  
by Elizabeth Alder

*Sophie's World: A Novel about the History of Philosophy*  
by Jostein Gaarder

*The Good Earth*  
by Pearl S. Buck

**Grade 10**

**Required:**

*Gandhi: His Life and Message to the World*  
by Louis Fischer

*The Samurai's Garden*  
by Gail Tsukiyama

**Additionally, sophomores are required to read any ONE of the following:**

*The Lemon Tree: an Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East* (Middle East)  
by Sandy Tolan

*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* (Africa)  
by Ishmael Beah

*Nectar in a Sieve* (India)  
by Kamala Markandaya



**Grade 11**

**Required:**

*The Jungle*  
by Upton Sinclair

*A Case Study in Critical Controversy, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*  
edited by Graff and Phelan

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*  
by Frederick Douglass

**Suggested:**

*The All-True Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton*  
by Jane Smiley

*Cold Mountain*  
by Charles Frazier

*Hiroshima*  
by John Hersey

*Grapes of Wrath*  
by John Steinbeck

*Last of the Mohicans*  
by James Fenimore Cooper

**Grade 12**

**Required:**

*King Leopold's Ghost*  
by Adam Hochschild

*Shakespeare: The World as Stage*  
by Bill Bryson

*The Gospel of John*  
Bible: New Testament (any translation)

**Suggested:**

*Markings*  
by Dag Hammarsköld

*Name of the Rose*  
by Umberto Eco

*Tales of a Shaman's Apprentice*  
by Mark Plotkin



**Biology**

**Required:**

*Survival of the Sickest: The Surprising Connections between Disease and Longevity*  
by S. Moalem and J. Prince

**AP Biology**

**Required:**

*Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5 Billion Year History of the Human Body*  
by Neil Shubin

**Creative Writing**

**Required:**

*Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*  
by Anne Lamott

**Entrepreneurial Leadership**

**Required:**

*Of Mice and Men*  
by John Steinbeck

*Anthem*  
by Ayn Rand

**Human Anatomy & Physiology**

**Required:**

*Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man who would Cure the World*  
by Tracy Kidder

**Modern China**

**Required:**

*Confucius Lives Next Door: What Living in the East Teaches Us about Living in the West*  
by T.R. Reid

**History of the Modern Middle East**

**Suggested:**

*Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*  
by Elizabeth Warnock Fernea

## **Middle School Summer Reading—Choice Book Descriptions (choose 2)**

### ***The House of the Scorpion*, Nancy Farmer**

Readers will be hooked from the first page, in which a scientist brings to life one of 36 tiny cells, frozen more than 100 years ago. The result is the protagonist at the novel's center, Matt a clone of El Patrón, a powerful drug lord, born Matteo Alacrán to a poor family in a small village in Mexico. El Patrón is ruler of Opium, a country that lies between the United States and Aztlán, formerly Mexico; its vast poppy fields are tended by eejits, human beings who attempted to flee Aztlán, programmed by a computer chip implanted in their brains. With smooth pacing that steadily gathers momentum, Farmer traces Matt's growing awareness of what being a clone of one of the most powerful and feared men on earth entails. The 2002 National Book Award for Young People's Literature. 400 pages

### ***Al Capone Does My Shirts*, Gennifer Choldenko**

12-year-old Moose Flanagan and his family move to Alcatraz Island in 1935, where his father gets a job in the prison which housed such noted criminals as Al Capone and Machine Gun Kelly. Moose's older sister, Natalie, is severely autistic and his mother has been obsessed with getting her "cured." She has been sent to a variety of schools and bizarre hospitals, none of which have helped, and their last hope is getting her into a school in San Francisco. Moose is given almost complete responsibility for his sister. Meanwhile, Moose is coping with his new school, living in an isolated and strange place, and the warden's daughter, Piper, who always has a new money-making scheme. Juggling Natalie's daily moods, school work, yearning for Piper, and worry over his folks, Moose tries to please everyone. His greatest fear is that somehow he has caused Natalie's problem. 225 pages

### ***Uglies*, Scott Westerfeld (may read any of the series!)**

Tally Youngblood is living an unexamined life in a world unlike ours, hundreds of years from now. She's impatiently awaiting her birthday because in her town, Uglyville, everybody gets the same gift at age 16: cosmetic surgery which transforms them into gorgeous creatures. They also move into 'party towers' in New Pretty Town. Tally's best friend has already made the transition and, motivated by her desire to see him, she sneaks into town. Her near-capture leads to a new best friend, Shay, who has the same birthday. On the eve of their operations, Shay reveals a plan to escape to a renegade settlement called 'the Smoke.' When Shay disappears, government agents blackmail Tally into leading them to the rebels. Once in the Smoke, Tally has a crisis of conscience when she learns the surgery is more sinister than she imagined. Teens will appreciate the gadgetry — including bungee jackets and hoverboards that work by magnetic levitation. 448 pages

### ***The Goose Girl*, Shannon Hale**

In this well-known Grimms fairy tale, albeit it with a modern and magical twist, 16-year-old Princess Anidori—Kiladra Talianna Isillee, Crown Princess of Kildenree, is betrayed by Selia, her jealous and evil lady-in-waiting, and takes refuge as a goose girl while plotting how to reclaim her rightful place as the bride-to-be of the Prince of Bayern. Gifted with the ability to speak to animals and talk to the wind, Princess Anidori—now called Isi—falls in love, makes new friends, and collects allies in her quest to claim her title. This tale of courage and perseverance is a delight. 400 pages

## Middle School Summer Reading—Choice Book Descriptions (choose 2)

### ***The Westing Game*, Ellen Raskin**

When an eccentric millionaire dies mysteriously, sixteen very unlikely people are gathered together for the reading of the will . . . and what a will it is! *The Westing Game* is a sly murder mystery. (Puzzle might be a better word--there's really only cartoon grisliness in this book.) It is confoundingly clever, and very funny. 192 pages

### ***Bull Run*, Paul Fleischman**

In this brilliant fictional tour de force, the Newbery Award-winning author recreates the first great battle of the Civil War from the points of view of 16 participants--Northern and Southern, male and female, black and white. It is a great read! 128 pages

### ***The Blue Sword*, Robin McKinley**

Harry Crewe is an orphan girl who comes to live in Damar, the desert country shared by the Homelander and the secretive, magical Hillfolk. Her life is quiet and ordinary--until the night she is kidnapped by Corlath, the Hillfolk King, who takes her deep into the desert. She does not know the Hillfolk language; she does not know why she has been chosen. But Corlath does. Harry is to be trained in the arts of war until she is a match for any of his men. Does she have the courage to accept her true fate? A Newbery Honor Book, ALA Notable Book, ALA Best Book for Young Adults. 288 pages

### ***A Wind in the Door*, Madeleine L'Engle**

Madeleine L'Engle jumps seamlessly from a child's world of liverwurst and cream cheese sandwiches to deeply sinister, cosmic battles between good and evil. Students will revel in the delectably chilling details--including hideous scenes in which a school principal named Mr. Jenkins is impersonated by the Echthroi (the evil forces that tear skies, snuff out light, and darken planets). When it becomes clear that the Echthroi are putting Charles Wallace in danger, the only logical course of action is for Meg and her friend Calvin O'Keefe to become small enough to go inside Charles Wallace's body--into one of his mitochondria--to see what's going wrong with his farandolae. In an illuminating flash on the interconnectedness of all things and the relativity of size, we realize that the tiniest problem can have mammoth, even intergalactic ramifications. Can this intrepid group voyage through time and space and muster all their strength of character to save Charles Wallace? 224 pages

### ***Airborn*, Kenneth Oppel**

Kenneth Oppel's *Airborn* is a terrific, rollicking adventure set in a Victorian world traversed by airships. It is narrated by Matt, a cabin-boy who must survive piracy and shipwreck on a volcanic island with only the spirited Kate to help him. Together, they track down the mysterious cloud cats which inadvertently killed Kate's father, and set each other free from convention. Matt is a great hero - fearless, smart, irreverent, sunny and agile as the young Indiana Jones. 322 pages

2010 St. Mary's School  
**Middle School**  
 Required Summer Reading Order Form  
**Please return by April 30th**

<b>6th grade required</b>	Qty	Price
The Coming of the Bear ISBN:9780804836135		<b>6.00</b>
<b>7th grade required</b>		
Three Cups of Tea (Young Readers Ed.) ISBN:9780142414125		<b>7.00</b>
Aladdin and other tales from the Arabian Nights ISBN:9780140367829		<b>4.00</b>
<b>8th grade required</b>		
Under the Blood-Red Sun ISBN:9780440411390		<b>5.50</b>
Fever 1793 ISBN: 9780689848919		<b>5.50</b>

	Qty	Price
<b>Additionally, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to read TWO of the titles below:</b>		
House of the Scorpion ISBN:9780689852237		<b>8.00</b>
Bull Run ISBN:9780064405881		<b>5.00</b>
The Blue Sword ISBN:9780141309750		<b>5.50</b>
Al Capone Does My Shirts ISBN:9780142403709		<b>5.50</b>
A Wind in the Door ISBN:9780312368548		<b>5.50</b>
The Westing Game ISBN:9780142401200		<b>5.50</b>
Airborn ISBN:9780060531829		<b>6.50</b>
The Goose Girl ISBN:9780689865381		<b>7.00</b>
Uglies ISBN:9780689865381		<b>7.00</b>
Pretties ISBN:9780689865398		<b>8.00</b>
Specials ISBN:9781416947950		<b>8.00</b>
Extras ISBN:9781416971214		<b>8.00</b>
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>		

Please attach a check made out to St. Mary's School for the total amount due. Return to the office or library by Friday, April 30th .

Students will receive their ordered books on the day they check out of school in June.

Name of Student(s)

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Circle grade(s) in Fall 2010: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## **Grade 9 Choice Books—Choose one**

### **Book of the Lion**

by Michael Cadnum

Edmund, an apprentice, is seized by the king's men and thrown in jail for his master's crime of counterfeiting. Then Edmund is unexpectedly released into the custody of Sir Nigel, a knight in search of a squire. Edmund will train as a squire and accompany the knight on a journey to fight alongside Richard the Lionheart on the Crusades. As they travel across Europe, Edmund is fascinated by all he sees, but he fears for his safety in the days that lie ahead. (208 pages)

### **Ben Hur**

by Lew Wallace

As childhood friends-become-enemies, Judah and Messala always had a burning desire to over achieve each other. Messala, in his final attempt to spite Judah Ben-Hur, accused innocent Judah of trying to harm a Roman prince. Now a slave, Judah, of the house of Hur, must redeem his life, and that of his family's name. He must rise above slavery and into poverty where he must begin his life anew. Quick is the rise of a true hero, one who knows defeat but cherishes freedom. (576 pages)

### **The King's Shadow**

by Elizabeth Alder

Evyn, a young Welsh serf, has dreamed all his life of becoming a storyteller. But in a cruel twist of fate, Evyn and his father suffer a brutal attack by a group of murderous ruffians. Evyn's tongue is cut off and his father is killed. Orphaned and unable to speak, Evyn assumes he is destined to a life of slavery. But Evyn is resilient and teaches himself to read and write. He is then appointed the personal companion to Earl Harold of Wessex, who later becomes the King of England. The two travel the countryside together, forming a close father-son bond. Evyn chronicles all of their exciting journeys, which culminate at the Battle of Hastings, where the future of the country is decided. (259 pages)

### **Sophie's World: A Novel about the History of Philosophy**

by Jostein Gaarder

One day when Sophie comes home from school, she finds two questions in her mail: Who are you? and Where does the world come from? Before she knows it, she is pondering all the great questions of Western philosophy (from the Greeks to Kant, to Marx and Freud) with a mysterious mentor. But Sophie is also receiving a separate batch of equally unusual letters. Who is Hilde? And why does her mail keep turning up in Sophie's world? To solve this riddle, Sophie uses her new knowledge of philosophy, but the truth is far stranger than she could have imagined. (518 pages)

### **The Good Earth**

by Pearl S. Buck

Wang Lung, rising from humble Chinese farmer to wealthy landowner, gloried in the soil he worked. He held it above his family, even above his gods. But soon, between Wang Lung and the kindly soil that sustained him, came flood and drought, pestilence and revolution.... Through this one Chinese peasant and his children, Nobel Prize-winner Pearl S. Buck traces the whole cycle of life, its terrors, its passion, its persistent ambitions and its rewards. Her brilliant novel — beloved by millions of readers throughout the world — is a universal tale of the destiny of men. (448 pages)

## **Grade 10 Choice Books—Choose one**

### **Middle East**

#### **The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East**

Author: Sandy Tolan

This is a very carefully researched, true story about a Palestinian and an Israeli whose lives become intertwined through historical circumstance. It is filled with the history of this conflict and tells an incredible story, but it is a fairly challenging read. (384 pages)

### **Africa**

#### **A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier**

Author: Ishmael Beah

This is a true story about a boy in Sierra Leone who is recruited into the army as a child soldier. It is a very sad, harrowing tale, but the writing is simple so it is easy to read. (240 pages)

### **Indian Subcontinent**

#### **Nectar in a Sieve**

Author: Kamala Markandaya

This novel tells the story of India and its people through the eyes of one woman and her experiences in one peasant family in a primitive Indian village. It is well-written and easy to read. (255 pages)

2010 St. Mary's School  
**Upper School**  
 Required Summer Reading Order Form  
**Please return by April 30th**

9 <sup>th</sup> grade required	Qty	Price
Gifts ISBN:9780152051242		<b>6.00</b>
<b>Additionally, 9<sup>th</sup> graders are required to read ONE of the five titles below:</b>		
Ben-Hur: A Tale of Christ ISBN:9781934648216		<b>13.00</b>
The Book of the Lion ISBN:9780142300343		<b>5.50</b>
The Good Earth ISBN:9781416500186		<b>5.50</b>
The King's Shadow ISBN:9780440220114		<b>5.50</b>
Sophie's World: A Novel About the History of Philosophy ISBN:9780374530716		<b>9.50</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade required</b>		
Gandhi: His Life & Message to the World ISBN:9780451627421		<b>6.50</b>
The Samurai's Garden ISBN:978031214407		<b>11.00</b>
<b>Additionally, 10<sup>th</sup> graders are required to read ONE of the three titles below:</b>		
The Lemon Tree ISBN:9781596913431		<b>12.00</b>
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier ISBN:9780374105235		<b>9.50</b>
Nectar in a Sieve ISBN:9780451528230		<b>5.50</b>

<b>11<sup>th</sup> grade required</b>		
The Jungle ISBN:9780553212457		<b>5.00</b>
A Case Study in Critical Controversy: Adventures of Huckleberry Finn ISBN:9780312400293		<b>10.00</b>
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass ISBN:9780486284996		<b>1.50</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade required</b>		
King Leopold's Ghost ISBN:9780618001903		<b>12.00</b>
Shakespeare: The World as Stage ISBN: 9780061673696		<b>11.00</b>
<b>Elective Books required:</b>		
<b>Biology:</b> Survival of the Sickest ISBN:9780060889661		<b>11.00</b>
<b>AP Biology:</b> Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5 Billion-Year History of the Human Body ISBN:9780307277459		<b>12.00</b>
<b>Anatomy:</b> Mountains Beyond Mountains ISBN:9780812973013		<b>13.00</b>
<b>Creative Writing:</b> Bird by Bird ISBN:9780385480017		<b>12.00</b>
<b>Entrepreneurial Leadership:</b> Of Mice and Men ISBN:9780140177398		<b>7.00</b>
<b>Entrepreneurial Leadership:</b> Anthem ISBN:9780452286351		<b>11.50</b>
<b>Modern China:</b> Confucius Lives Next Door ISBN:9780679777601		<b>11.50</b>
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>		

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Name of Student(s)

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Circle grade(s) in Fall 2010: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_