

The Sagemont School

Middle School Summer Reading 2020-21

Please buy a physical copy of the following book and finish reading it before the summer is over. In the fall, when you start reading your first class novel, you will be asked to compare and contrast the elements of this book with your class novel, in the form of a writing assignment. The book being assigned to you for summer reading has many similarities, especially of theme, with your class novels. Please make sure to highlight or underline any parts that show the theme of the book or give important information about the characters.

Incoming 6th Grade:

Theme: Oppressive occupation of a culture

Book: *When my Name was Keoko* by Linda Sue Park

With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

Incoming 6th Grade Mountain Peak:

Book: *Prisoner B-3087* by Alan Gratz

Based on the true story of Jack and Ruth Gruener, this book shares a story of survival from the Nazi occupation of Kraków through a series of concentration camps to the final liberation of Dachau.

Incoming 7th Grade:

Theme: Social conformity

Book: *That was Then, This is Now* by S.E. Hinton

Sixteen-year-old Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood, but now, as their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

Incoming 8th Grade:

Theme: Survival; strength and bravery in the facing the hardships

Book: *The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible on Schindler's List*
by Leon Leyson

Leon Leyson describes growing up in Poland, being forced from home to ghetto to concentration camps by the Nazis, and being saved by Oskar Schindler. The text contains descriptions of violence. The coauthors are Marilyn J. Harran and Elisabeth B. Leyson.

ESOL Summer Reading Middle School:

I Survived the Bombing of Pearl Harbor, 1941 by Lauren Tarshis