



**Bernardsville Middle School
2011 Summer Reading**

Students Entering Grade 7



Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 7th grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.

One School, One Book

All STUDENTS Entering 7th Grade SHOULD read:

***Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* – Jordan Sonnenblick**

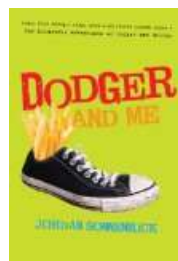


When his younger brother becomes very sick, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

In addition, all students entering 7th grade should read at least one of the following titles by Jordan Sonnenblick:



After Ever After:**
Sequel to *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie!
Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.



Dodger and Me:
Miserable because his only friend moved away and he has again caused his baseball team to lose a game, Willy Ryan's life suddenly becomes a lot more interesting when he finds Dodger, a furry, blue chimpanzee that only he can see, and he has to decide what he really wishes for in life.



Zen and the Art of Faking It:
When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer -and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

Top Teacher Picks:

***Al Capone Does My Shirts* – Gennifer Choldenko**
A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

A look at fast food, what's in it, how it's made, and what it does to our bodies.

- Ms. Flynn, Literacy – Grade 7

***Hoot* – Carl Hiassan**
Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

***The Last Olympian* – *Percy Jackson Series* – Rick Riordan**
The long-awaited prophecy surrounding Percy Jackson's sixteenth birthday unfolds as he leads an army of young demigods to stop Kronos in his advance on New York City, while the Olympians struggle to contain the rampaging monster, Typhon.

***Magyk* – *Septimus Heap Series* – Angie Sage**

***Chew on This* – Eric Schlosser**

Jenna learns that she is a princess found as a baby by the man she believed was her father and now she and Septimus, who was taken at birth by the midwife, are being threatened by the evil wizard, DomDaniel, who intends to finish off the entire royal line.

- Mrs. Burke, Literacy – Grade 7

***The Graveyard Book* – Neil Gaiman**

The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.

Additional Suggested Titles:

***Maximum Ride Series* - James Patterson**

After the mutant Erasers abduct 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.

***Walk Two Moons* – Sharon Creech**

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

***Heat* – Mike Lupica**

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

***Tales of the Greek Heroes* - Roger Lancelyn Green**

For fans of Greek mythology, this collection retells nineteen heroic Greek myths, including the stories of Prometheus, Hercules, Theseus, Hermes and Apollo, the first fall of Troy, and the battle of the Giants.

***Run, Boy, Run* - Uri Orlev**

Read this true story of a nine-year-old boy who escapes the Warsaw Ghetto and must survive throughout the war in the Nazi-occupied Polish countryside.

***Savvy* - Ingrid Law**

Follow the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

***SilverFin: Young Bond #1* - Charles Higson**

***Stargirl* - Jerry Spinelli**

Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.

- Miss MacGorman, BMS School Librarian

***The Hunger Games Trilogy* - Suzanne Collins**

Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

- Mrs. Burke, Ms. Flynn, and Miss Mac!

Young James Bond, a student at the Eton boarding school in the 1930s, travels to his aunt's Scotland estate for the Easter holidays where he becomes caught up in investigating the disappearance of a local boy, a crime allegedly linked to a madman with a plot for global domination.

***Coraline* - Neil Gaiman**

Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.

***The Face on the Milk Carton* – Caroline B. Cooney**

A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity.

***Lyddie* - Katherine Paterson**

Impoverished Vermont farm girl Lyddie Worthen is determined to gain her independence by becoming a factory worker in Lowell, Massachusetts, in the 1840s.

***Football Hero* – Tim Green**

When twelve-year-old Ty's brother Thane is recruited out of college to play for the New York Jets, their Uncle Gus uses Ty to get insider information for his gambling ring, landing Ty and Thane in trouble with the Mafia.

***Treasure Island* - Robert Louis Stevenson**

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of an inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune.