

**Colonie Central High School
1 Raider Blvd.
Albany, NY 12205**

June 2010

Dear English 12 Students and Parents,

Reading is one of the most valuable and pleasurable habits you can develop. Much of our class time together next year will be spent reading, discussing and writing about literature.

As an incoming twelfth grader, you are to read two books of your choice over the course of the summer. Your choices must include literary elements such as plot, characters, theme, etc. Enclosed you will find a list of recommended titles; however, you are free to choose anything of an appropriate reading level. Your choices should not be any books previously read for another English class. You will be assessed on your knowledge of these novels at the end of September. The English 12 faculty strongly recommends you complete the following procedures to ensure effective recall:

1. List the main characters, and write a brief description of each.
2. Outline the plot.
3. Identify the themes.

After you have read these books, you will be expected to complete an elaborate book project and to give an oral presentation to the class explaining why other students should read these books. Your instructor will give you further information in class regarding content, grading and the due date of the project.

Enjoy your summer! We look forward to meeting with you in September.

Sincerely,

English 12 Faculty

Suggested Titles for English 12 Summer Reading

Historical Fiction

1. *Remembrance* by Theresa Breslin
2. *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
3. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini
4. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
5. *Atonement* by Ian McEwan
6. *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
7. *March Toward the Thunder* by Joseph Bruchac
8. *The Pox Party: The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing* by M.T. Anderson
9. *Keeping Corner* by Kashmiri Sheth
10. *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha* by Roddy Doyle
11. *Possession* by A.S. Byatt
12. *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory

Science Fiction/ Fantasy Fiction

13. *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini
14. *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
15. *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy
16. *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer
17. *The Running Man* by Stephen King
18. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
19. *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow
20. *Singing the Dogstar Blues* by Alison Goodman
21. *New World Order* by Ben Jeapes
22. *Otherworld Bound* by Dean Richards
23. *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld
24. *The Alchemist: The Secrets of the Immortal Flame* by Michael Scott
25. *Graceling* by Kristen Cashore
26. *Nation* by Terry Prachett

Realistic Fiction

27. *Wintergirls* by Laurie Halse Anderson
28. *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards
29. *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo
30. *The Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier
31. *Destroy All Cars* by Blake Nelson
32. *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver
33. *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult
34. *Shift* by Jayson Porter
35. *Sucker Punch* by David Hernandez
36. *Looks* by Madeleine George
37. *Feathered* by Laura Kasischke
38. *Rule of the Bone* by Russel Banks
39. *Dreamland* by Sarah Dessen
40. *Looking for Alaska* by John Green
41. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey
42. *Fat Kid Rules the World* by Kelly Going
43. *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote
44. *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller
45. *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac

War and Conflict Literature

46. *Sunrise Over Fallujah* by Walter Dean Myers
47. *Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI* by Ryan Smithson
48. *Fly Boys* by James Bradley
49. *House to House: An Epic Memoir of War* by Davis Bellavia

Suggested Titles for English 12 Summer Reading

50. *Boredom by day, Death by Night: An Iraq War Journal* by English Wesley
51. *War Is... Soldiers, Survivors, and Storytellers Talk about War* by Marc Aronson
52. *Clear Blue Sky* by F. P. Lione
53. *Slaughterhouse-five* by Kurt Vonnegut
54. *We Were Soldiers* by Harold G. Moore and Joe Galloway
55. *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden

Nonfiction/Memoir

56. *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* by Dave Eggers
57. *A Million Little Pieces* by James Frey
58. *Blood, Tears, and IV's* by Elissa Lorsdale
59. *Girlbomb: A Halfway Homeless Memoir* by Janice Erlbaum
60. *Beautiful Boy* by David Sheff
61. *A Wolf at the Table: A Memoir of My Father* by Augusten Burroughs
62. *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah
63. *Columbine* by Dave Cullen
64. *Lucky* by Alice Sebold
65. *Brighton Beach Memoirs* by Neil Simon
66. *Always Looking Up: The Adventures of an Incurable Optimist* by Michael J. Fox
67. *My Forbidden Face: Growing Up Under the Taliban: A Young Woman's Story* by Latifa
68. *Wasted: A Memoir of Anorexia and Bulimia* by Maya Hornbacher
69. *Running with Scissors* by Augusten Burroughs
70. *The Last True Story I Will Ever Tell* by John Crawford
71. *Burn Journals* by Brent Runyon
72. *Tweak* by Nic Sheff
73. *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser

Horror/Mystery

74. *Blood Brothers* by S.A. Harazin
75. *Bog Child* by Siobhan Dowd
76. *Paper Towns* by John Green
77. *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
78. *Pat Life* by Tedd Arnold
79. *Death of a Cozy Writer* by G.M. Malliet
80. *Crooked* by Laura McNeal
81. *The Cruellest Month* by Louise Penny
82. *Nothing to Lose* by Alex Flinn
83. *Counterfeit Son* by Elaine Marie Alphin
84. *Acceleration* by Graham McNamee
85. *Black Mirror* by Nancy Werlin
86. *Lullaby* by Chuck Palahniuk

Sports Literature

87. *Deadline* by Chris Crutcher
88. *Crackback* by John Coy
89. *Inexcusable* by Chris Lynch
90. *The Off Season* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock
91. *Dairy Queen* by Catherine Murdock
92. *The Keeper* by Mal Peet
93. *Black and White* by Pail Volponi
94. *Damage* by A.M. Jenkins
95. *The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon* by Stephen King
96. *Amazing Grace* by Megan Shull
97. *Out of Order* by A.M. Jenkins
98. *Hard Hit* by Ann Warren Turner
99. *Rucker Park Setup* by Paul Volponi
100. *Rough and Tumble* by Mark Bavaro