Canton Country Day School
Summer Reading List 2017

Eighth Grade

REQUIRED READING:
1. *All but my Life* by Gerda Weissmann Klein (I will provide book)
2. *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys (I will provide book)
3. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

For each **required reading book**, complete a one-page plot analysis (attached) and then bring them to school on Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

**SUMMER READING RECORD**: For every other book you read this summer, keep a log with book title, author, and date you finished the book. Please bring this log on Tuesday, September 5, 2017. You do not need to complete a plot analysis for these additional readings.

Below are some suggested books to help you in selecting quality books to read over the summer. Try to diversify your reading. Do not read all the same genre, but explore and discover other great works that are available to you. **DO NOT** choose books that you have already read!

**NOTE**: Many of these books are new Young Adult books that have won many prizes, so take a close look!!
All the Light You Cannot See / Anthony Doerr
A blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Among Friends / Caroline B. Cooney
Six high school juniors discover surprising, often painful, things about themselves and their relationships with the people around them in the diaries they are asked to keep as a three-month English assignment.

And Then There Were None / Agatha Christie
Ten strangers, apparently with little in common, are lured to an island mansion off the coast of Devon by the mysterious U.N. Owen.

Anne of Avonlea / L.M. Montgomery
Sixteen-year-old Anne, mischievous and spirited as ever, returns to Avonlea to teach in the village school where she herself was taught.

The Arm of the Starfish / Madeleine L'Engle
A marine biology student reporting to his summer job on an island off Portugal finds himself at the center of a power struggle between his boss and another group of Americans.

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn / Betty Smith
The story focuses on an impoverished but aspirational second-generation Irish-American adolescent girl and her family in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York City, during the first two decades of the 20th century.

The Book Thief / Markus Zusak
Death narrates the story of Liesel Meminger, beginning when she is nine years old and suffering from the death of her brother and separation from her mother.

A Boy at War: a Novel of Pearl Harbor / Harry Mazer
While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack, and through the chaos of the subsequent days, tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

The Canning Season / Polly Horvath
Thirteen-year-old Ratchet spends a summer in Maine with her eccentric great-aunts Tilly and Penpen, hearing strange stories from the past and encountering a variety of unusual and colorful characters.

Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two / Joseph Bruchac - After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Escape from Saigon /Andrea Warren - Chronicles the experiences of an orphaned Amerasian boy from his birth and early childhood in Saigon through his departure from Vietnam in the 1975 Operation Babylift and his subsequent life as the adopted son of an American family in Ohio.

A Farewell to Arms / Ernest Hemingway
An American ambulance driver serving on the Austro-Italian front in World War I becomes entangled with an English nurse and deserts to join her after the retreat of Caparetto.

The Giver / Lois Lowry
Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets / J.K. Rowling
Harry Potter, a second-year student at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, finds himself in danger from a dark power that has once more been released on the school with the opening of the Chamber of Secrets.

The Hobbit, or, There and Back Again / J.R.R. Tolkien
The adventure of Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit, in a land inhabited by dwarfs, elves, goblins, dragons, and humans. He sets off to recover a stolen treasure from a dragon hidden in the Lonely Mountain.

Into Thin Air / Jon Krakauer
Jon Krakauer, author and mountain climber, is hired by Outside Magazine to write an article about the commercialism on Mount Everest. Krakauer decides he wants to climb the mountain, and joins the most disastrous Everest expedition in history. ...

Jane Eyre / Charlotte Bronte
A young governess who suffered a violently abusive childhood finds love unexpectedly with her new employer, but secrets from his past--involving madness and old passions--may prove to destro...

Milkweed / Jerry Spinelli
A street child, known to himself only as Stopthief, finds community when he is taken in by a band of orphans in Warsaw ghetto which helps him weather the horrors of the Nazi regime.

Kidnapped / Robert Louis Stevenson
In 1751, David Balfour, a Scottish boy, is cheated out of his inheritance by his uncle, who has him kidnapped, sold as a slave, and thrown onto a ship--but with the help of a fugitive, David fights his captors, makes a daring escape amidst a shipwreck, and hopes to survive a treacherous journey home.

Kira-Kira / Cynthia Kadohata - Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

The Last Silk Dress / Ann Rinaldi.
During the Civil War, Susan finds a way to help the Confederate Army and uncovers a series of mysterious family secrets.

Little Women / Louisa May Alcott
Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young women in nineteenth-century New England.

The Man Without a Face / Isabelle Holland
A fatherless fourteen-year-old boy develops an unusual relationship with the man living near his summer home who helps him prepare his entrance exams to boarding school.

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The Misfits / James Howe.
Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.

Olive's Ocean / Kevin Henkes
On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, on her feelings for an older boy, and on her plans to be a writer.

The Orphan of Ellis Island / Elvira Woodruff
During a school trip to Ellis Island, Dominick Avaro, a ten-year-old foster child, travels back in time to 1908 Italy and accompanies two young emigrants to America.

Phineas Gage: a Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science / John Fleischman - The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848, and who survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.
Rifles for Watie / by Harold Keith
Sixteen-year-old Jefferson Davis Bussey cannot wait to join the Army and defend the Union against the dreaded Colonel Watie, but when he is assigned to infiltrate the enemy camp as a spy, he discovers the rebels are boys and men just like him, and he must then decide whether to betray his enemies or join them.

Robinson Crusoe / Daniel Defoe
During one of his several adventurous voyages in the seventeenth century, an Englishman becomes the sole survivor of a shipwreck and lives for nearly thirty years on a desert island.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry / Mildred D. Taylor
(Sequel: Let the Circle Be Unbroken) An African-American family living in the South during the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand.

Romeo & Juliet / William Shakespeare
In William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, a long feud between the Montague and Capulet families disrupts the city of Verona and causes tragic results for Romeo and Juliet. Revenge, love, and a secret marriage force the young star-crossed lovers to grow up quickly — and fate causes them to commit suicide in despair.

The Sea Wolf / by Jack London
Relates the story of a wealthy young man who is rescued after a shipwreck by the brutal, ruthless captain of a tramp steamer.

Summer of My German Soldier / Bette Greene
When German prisoners of war are brought to her Arkansas town during World War II, twelve-year-old Patty, a Jewish girl, befriends one of them and must deal with the consequences of that friendship.

The Swiss Family Robinson / J.D. Wyss
Relates the fortunes of a shipwrecked family as they adapt to life on an island with abundant animal and plant life.

A Tale of Two Cities / Charles Dickens
Relates the adventures of a young Englishman who gives his life during the French Revolution to save the husband of the woman he loves.

The Boy on the Wooden Box / Leon Leyson
A remarkable memoir of Leon Leyson, one of the youngest children to survive the Holocaust on Oskar Schindler’s list. Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezjon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto.

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle / Avi
Thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle, the only passenger on a voyage from England to America in 1832, must take serious matters into her own hands when she learns that the captain is murderous.

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea / Jules Verne
The classic novel in which a French professor and his companions, trapped aboard a fantastic submarine with the mad Captain Nemo, come face to face with exotic ocean creatures and strange sights hidden from the world above.

Wuthering Heights / Emily Bronte
Forced by a storm to spend the night at the home of Heathcliff, Mr. Lockwood uncovers a tale of terror and hatred on the Yorkshire moors.