



Dear 8th grade parents,

Immaculate Conception School is committed to helping students develop a love of reading and improve their reading comprehension skills. Current research on summer reading tells us that students should read during the summer to maintain independent reading levels. The intention of the summer reading expectation at ICS is to foster the continued application of the valuable reading strategies taught and developed over the course of the school year. Now, more than ever, an emphasis on reading will help your child prepare for the upcoming school year.

Summer Reading Expectations

I. Choice Novel

On pages 3 and 4 of this PDF, a list of choice reading material from grades 6–8 is provided. Please select the choice reading material from this list. This novel will be used at the beginning of the school year. Students will present their choice novels to the class in a presentation that they will create within the first two weeks of school as a **graded assignment for oral language and reading comprehension**.

The ELA department also encourages students to read as many books as they would like throughout the summer. Parents can use www.commonsemmedia.org or <https://clubs.scholastic.com> to determine appropriateness levels for their children. We encourage parents to engage their students in conversations about their reading!

II. Required All-Grade Novel

In addition to one choice novel, the entire grade will read one assigned non-fiction book. These novels can be found at your local library, Amazon, or local bookstores.

There will be a discussion on this text **graded for reading comprehension and oral language**.

- The assigned reading for 8th grade is *The Little Book of Talent: 52 Tips for Improving Your Skills* by Daniel Coyle
ISBN-13: 978-0345530257

III. IXL Practice

Families should refer to the IXL PDF for Grade 8. Students will use a log to record their progress. Students should work to 80% mastery or better. The mastery on IXL will be awarded up to **30 points towards the student's grammar grade** as completed in compliance with the listed IXL skills.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

-The ICS middle school language arts department



2021-2022 In-school ELA Reading Material

The novels listed below will be read in ELA classes. Please reserve the magic of these reading experiences for our instructional time together.

6th Grade Novels

	Trimester One	Trimester Two	Trimester Three
Standard	<i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> by Norton Juster <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen	<i>The Pearl</i> by John Steinbeck	<i>Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeleine L'Engle
Advanced	<i>Hello Universe</i> by Erin Entrada Kelly <i>You Go First</i> by Erin Entrada Kelly <i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli	<i>The Westing Game</i> by Ellen Raskin	<i>The Little Prince</i> by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

7th Grade Novels

	Trimester One	Trimester Two	Trimester Three
Standard	<i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry	<i>The Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding	<i>I Am Malala</i> by Malala Yousafzai
Advanced	<i>Peak</i> by Roland Smith <i>The Running Dream</i> by Wendelin Van Draanen	<i>A Christmas Carol</i> by Charles Dickens <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London <i>Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team</i> by Steve Sheinkin	<i>Wolf Hollow</i> by Lauren Wolk <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee

8th Grade Novels

	Trimester One	Trimester Two	Trimester Three
Standard	<i>The Five People You Meet in Heaven</i> by Mitch Albom	<i>Red Kayak</i> by Priscilla Cummings <i>Our Town</i> by Thornton Wilder	<i>The Outsiders</i> by S. E. Hinton
Advanced	<i>Navigating Early</i> by Claire Vanderpool <i>Beyond the Bright Sea</i> by Lauren Wolk	<i>The Outsiders</i> by S. E. Hinton <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> by William Shakespeare	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> by William Shakespeare <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel



Choice Novels

Please select one choice novel from the following list. Students in standard level ELA courses should select from the first column, and students in advanced classes should select from the second column. Choices include subcategories of classics, contemporary, and nonfiction.

	6-8 Standard-Level Choice Novels	6-8 Advanced-Level Choice Novels
Classics	<p><i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt</p> <p><i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by L. M. Montgomery</p> <p><i>Murder on the Orient Express</i> by Agatha Christie</p> <p><i>Peter Pan</i> by J. M. Barrie</p> <p><i>The Secret Garden</i> by Frances Hodgson Burnett</p>	<p><i>Little Women</i> by Louisa May Alcott</p> <p><i>Oliver Twist</i> by Charles Dickens</p> <p><i>Black Beauty</i> by Anne Sewell</p> <p><i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i> by J. R. R. Tolkein</p> <p><i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> by Mark Twain</p> <p><i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell</p>
Contemporary	<p><i>Catherine Called Birdy</i> by Karen Cushman</p> <p><i>Fish in a Tree</i> by Lynda Mullaly Hunt</p> <p><i>An Elephant in the Garden</i> by Mark Murpurgo</p> <p><i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jacqueline Woodson</p> <p><i>Rose Under Fire</i> by Elizabeth Wein</p> <p><i>Feathers</i> by Jacqueline Woodson</p> <p><i>The Penderwicks</i> by Jeanne Birdsall</p>	<p><i>Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two</i> by Joseph Bruchac</p> <p><i>Refugee</i> by Alan Gratz</p> <p><i>Song for a Whale</i> by Lynne Kelly</p> <p><i>Cinder</i> by Marissa Meyer</p> <p><i>A Night Divided</i> by Jennifer Neilsen</p> <p><i>The False Prince</i> by Jennifer Neilsen</p> <p><i>Pax</i> by Sara Pennypacker</p> <p><i>Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pies</i> by Sonnenblick</p>



	<p><i>Behind the Bedroom Wall</i> by Laura E. Williams</p> <p><i>Prisoner B- 3087</i> by Alan Gratz</p> <p><i>Greenglass House</i> by Kate Milford</p> <p><i>Fever 1793</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson</p> <p><i>The Kneebone Boy</i> by Ellen Potter</p> <p><i>Charlie and Me: 421 Miles from Home</i> by Mark Lowery</p>	<p><i>Under the Persimmon Tree</i> by Suzanne Fisher Staples</p> <p><i>The Book Thief</i> by Mark Zusak</p>
Nonfiction	<p><i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park</p> <p><i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer: The Search for John Wilkes Booth</i> by James L. Swanson</p> <p><i>The Upstairs Room</i> by Johanna Reiss (autobiography)</p> <p><i>Phineas Gage: A Gruesome But True Story about Brain Science</i> by John Fleischman</p>	<p><i>Path to the Stars: My Journey from Girl Scout to Rocket Scientist</i> by Sylvia Acevedo</p> <p><i>Warriors Don't Cry</i> by Melba Pattillo Beals</p> <p><i>The Making of America: Abraham Lincoln</i> by Teri Kanefield</p> <p><i>The Making of America: Susan B. Anthony</i> by Teri Kanefield</p> <p><i>The Boy on the Wooden Box</i> by Leon Leyson</p> <p><i>The Impossible Rescue: The True Story of an Amazing Arctic Adventure</i> by Martin W. Sandler</p>