

Summer Reading Ideas 2009

Our Lady of Sorrows School

Make reading as central to your summer as going to the pool, eating ice cream, and sleeping late. Have a great summer! Mrs. Blair

This summer 8th grade students will be **required** to read **two** selected books and complete a book report form available on the following web site:

<http://www.olsschool.com/academic/library/>

Required Reading for 8th grade (choose two)

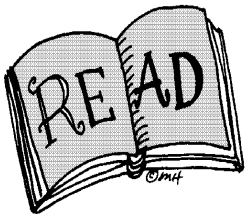
All of the Above by Shelley Pearsall - Build the world's largest tetrahedron (a 3-D multiplane structure) and break the Guinness world record? That's what seventh-grade math teacher Mr. Collin challenges his class to do. Based on a true account of a Cleveland middle school tetrahedron built in 2002, Pearsall crafts a story about urban teens coming together and pursuing a dream. Mr. Collins and four of the students take turns telling the story. It's about a lot more than geometry.

Crossing the Wire by Will Hobbs – Fifteen-year-old Victor is the sole support for his mother and sisters after his father's death, Living in small village in Mexico, Victor knows his corn crop will not feed his family. He must find work in the United States. Join Victor's desperate journey crossing the desert and mountains, fleeing border officials and drug traffickers, jumping trains, and not knowing whom to trust. Hobbs puts a human face on a relevant issue.

Petey by Ben Mikaelson – Based on a true story, Petey was born with severe cerebral palsy in 1920, mistakenly diagnosed as mentally retarded, and committed to an insane asylum at the age of two. Petey feels pain, loneliness, hope, and joy as he witnesses the comings and goings of different caretakers. Then, with a new diagnosis and move to a local nursing home, 70-year-old Petey befriends eighth grader Trevor. Read this amazing story about the power of the human spirit.

Under the Persimmon Tree by Suzanne Fisher Staples – Tragedy strikes Najmah when she witnesses the Taliban kidnapping her father and older brother, followed by her mother and baby brother dying in an American air strike during the Afghan war in October 2001. Disguised as a boy, Najmah make the dangerous journey to a refugee camp in Pakistan. There, she comes to know Nusrat, an American teacher who waits for her husband, Faiz, who has come back to his native land to set up a medical clinic. The intertwining of Najmah and Nusrat's stories are compelling and heartbreaking.

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton - Ponyboy, Darry and Sodapop live on the wrong side of the tracks. Their parents died in a car accident. The closest thing to family they have is their gang, the Greasers. When the Greasers get in a fight with their sworn enemies, the Socs, life is changed forever.



If you are hungry for more book suggestions, go to www.olsschool.com and click on the library page.