**Why Do We Read Literature?**

**Learning to read well is essential to one’s development as a student and as a well-rounded, informed and engaged adult. Among other attributes, reading helps to develop one’s verbal abilities, improves the memory, and stokes the imagination! So, set a reading goal for yourself this year!**

**Suggested Reading List of Books to Read Before You Leave 8th Grade**

When I was a Slave: Memoirs from the Slave Narrative Collection edited by Norman R. Yetman

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien

Treasure Island by Robert Lewis Stevenson

The Last of the Mohicans: A Narrative of 1757 by James Fenimore Cooper

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O’Dell

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

Ender’s Game by Olson Scott Card

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

Three Cups of Tea (Young Readers Edition)

Rules by Cynthia Lord

The Castaways by Iain Lawrence

The Boy Who Dared by Susan Campbell Barloletti

A Book of a Thousand Days by Shannon Hale

A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen

The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood

The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Junior Edition) by William Kamkwamba and Brian Mealer

Pax by Sara Pennypacker

Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan

Orbiting Jupiter by Gary Schmidt

Goodbye Stranger by Rebecca Stead

The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers’ Edition) by Daniel James Brown

The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom

The Giver by Lois Lowry

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

The Lightening Thief by Rick Rordan

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne

Wonder by RJ Palacio

The Diary of Anne Frank

Roll of Thunder, Hear Me Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engle

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbit

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

Abe Lincoln Grows Up by Carl Sanburg

Harriet Tubman-Conductor on the Underground Railraod by Ann Petry

The Day No Pigs Would Die by Robert Newton Peck

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen

Guts by Gary Paulsen

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

The Devil’s Aritmentic by Jane Yolen

The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

The Tales of Edgar Allen Poe

Serafina and the Black Cloak by Robert Beatty

So B. It by Sarah Weeks

Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson

The Raft by S. A. Bodeen

October Sky by Homer Hickam

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

Lions of Little Rock by Kristin Levine

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

Refugee by Alan Grantz

The War Below by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuck

Old Yellar by Fred Gipson

Nine Ten by Nora Raleigh Baskin

Counting By 7’s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

The Haunting of Gabrielle Ashe by Dan Poblacki

Wringer by Jerry Spinelli

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwanba and Bryan Wheeler

Orphan Girl Train by Christina Baker Kline

Gone Crazy in Alabama by Rita Williams Garcia

Sugar by jewell Parker Rhodes

Are You There God? It’s Me, Margaret by Judy Blume

The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien

Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White

Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

Hello Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly

Chasing Lincoln’s Killer by James L. Swanson

Mayday by Karen Harrington

The Seventh Most Important Thing by Shelley Pearsall

Home of the Brave by Loren Long

We Will Not Be Silent by Russell Freedman

The Librarian of Auschwitz by Antonion Iturbe

Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk

Ugly by Robert Hoge

Travel Team by Mike Lupica

Project 1065 by Alan Ratz

Monument 14 by Emmy Laybourne

Crispin by Avi