

CHA Summer Reading List

2015-2016

7th Grade

Students entering 6th – 8th grades are **required to read one book** from the Summer Reading List and one from the Historical Novels by Louis de Wohl below. An assessment will be given at the beginning of the school year on the two books read. Students should read independently every day.

The Cay / Theodore Taylor

Philip, an adolescent white boy who is blinded in a torpedo attack at sea during World War II, acquires a new type of vision, courage, and love when he is stranded on a tiny Caribbean island with Timothy, a kind, and elderly black man.

Code Talker / 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.

Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank/ Eleanor Roosevelt

In 1942, with Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl, Anne Frank, and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. It gives a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.

Dragonwings / Laurence Yep

In the early twentieth century a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

Elephant in the Garden / Michael Morpurgo

Inspired by historical truth, a grouping of family, elephant and enemy all come together to depict the importance of love, resolve, and hope. It's 1944. Elizabeth's father is fighting with the German army on the eastern front. Her mother works at Dresden zoo, where her favorite animal is a young elephant named Marlene. When the zoo director tells her the dangerous animals must be shot to prevent them running amok if the town is bombed, Elizabeth's mother moves Marlene into the back garden to save her... and then the bombs start to fall. Their home destroyed, Elizabeth and her family must flee the bombed-out city and through the wintery landscape, all the while avoiding the Russian troops who are drawing ever closer.

Tangerine / Edward Bloor

Paul Fisher, a stellar soccer player despite being legally blind, finally comes into his own when his family moves to the strange town of Tangerine, Florida.

Wenny Has Wings / Janet Lee Carey

Having had a near-death experience in the accident that killed his younger sister, eleven-year-old Will tries to cope with the situation by writing her letters.

Christian Service:

77 Creative Ways Kids Can Serve / Sondra Clark

Can kids really make an impact and change the world? Yes! This book gives kids all the ideas and practical information they need to find a project suited to their interest and ability.

Spiritual Summer Reading:

Students may choose one of the following books as their spiritual summer reading. There will be an in-class assignment related to summer reading within the first week of the new school year. Students will receive credit for their completed in-class assignment. The following books can be found on Amazon.com.

Historical Novels by Louis de Wohl

St. Joan: The Girl Soldier

The Spear

The Quiet Light: A Novel about St. Thomas Aquinas

Set All Afire

The Joyful Beggar: A Novel about St. Francis Assisi

The Living Wood: St. Helen and the Emperor Constantine

[The Last Crusader: A Novel about Don Juan of Austria](#)

[The Restless Flame: A Novel about Saint Augustine](#)

[Citadel of God: A Novel about Saint Benedict](#)

The Golden Thread: A Novel about St. Ignatius of Loyola

Lay Siege to Heaven: A Novel about St. Catherine of Siena

David of Jerusalem: A Novel about King David of the Old Testament

Other Novels:

"To The Heights" author: Brian Kennelly

"Eucharistic Miracles" author: Joan Carroll Cruz