

SUMMER READING

Saint James School
2025



Grade 8

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.” – Margaret Fuller

Students Entering Eighth Grade in September 2025 - Reading List & Projects

Whether you are headed to the beach, the ball field, or your own backyard, we encourage you to carve out time to read. The act of reading has tremendous benefits such as it enables you to escape into your imagination. We believe summer is the perfect time to spend some pleasurable hours with a good book.

Summer Reading Requirements - Complete both assignments below:

1. All incoming 8th graders are required to read *Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life* and *Maybe The World* by Admiral William H. McRaven.

“Remember...start each day with a task completed. Find someone to help you through life. Respect everyone. Know that life is not fair and that you will fail often. But if you take some risks, step up when times are toughest, face down the bullies, lift up the downtrodden, and never, ever give up – if you do these things, Then you can change your life for the better...and maybe the world.”

Answer the reflection questions attached and bring the answers on the first day of school.

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2. Choose a book from the list below to read this summer. You will be asked to complete an in-class assignment during the first week of school about the book you read. You will need to know character developments, settings and main plot of the story. Pay close attention to literacy elements in the story such as themes, symbolisms and point of view. Keep a log as you read to help you organize the information.

#### **Titles**

*Something Upstairs*  
*The Book Thief*  
*Uglies*  
*Chasing Lincoln's Killer*  
*Touching Spirit Bear*  
*I AM MALALA*  
*The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

#### **Authors**

Avi  
Marcus Zusak  
Scott Westerfield  
James L. Swanson  
Ben Mikaelson  
Malala Yousafzai  
Robert Louis Stevenson

