Teachers at Woodbury Junior-Senior High want to share some great books with our students this summer! Because reading expands vocabulary, enhances background knowledge, and inspires imagination, students will read at least one book over the summer. Junior high students will choose from the three books below, while high school students will read the book assigned for the grade that they will enter in September. Students will sign out their books before the end of this school year and have the opportunity to begin reading them.

Through summer reading, students will continue to develop reading skills that are essential for academic success. To that end, students will take an assessment on the book within the first two weeks of the start of school in September. Students who earn an 80% or higher on their summer reading assessment will be invited to take part in some special activities and earn special rewards. Activities will include a movie and popcorn in the auditorium during a school day in early October.
**Ghost** by Jason Reynolds

Running. That’s all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent. Thing is, Ghost has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he is trying to outrun. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?

**Fish in a Tree** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

“Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid.”

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there’s a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don’t always think alike.

**Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike** by Phil Knight

In this young readers edition of the international bestseller, Nike founder and board chairman Phil Knight ‘offers a rare and revealing look at the notoriously media-shy man behind the swoosh’ (*Booklist*), opening up about how he went from being a track star at an Oregon high school to the founder of a brand and company that changed everything.

It was only when Phil Knight got cut from the baseball team as a high school freshman that his mother suggested he try out for track instead. Ten years later, young and searching, Knight borrowed fifty dollars from his father and launched a company with one simple mission: import high-quality running shoes from Japan.

Phil Knight encountered risks and setbacks along the way, but always followed his own advice. Just keep going. Filled with wisdom, humanity, humour and heart, the young readers edition of the bestselling *Shoe Dog* is a story of determination that inspires all who read it.
9th Grade

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, for fifteen-year-old Christopher everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning. He lives on patterns, rules, and a diagram kept in his pocket. Then one day, a neighbor’s dog, Wellington, is killed and his carefully constructive universe is threatened. Christopher sets out to solve the murder in the style of his favourite (logical) detective, Sherlock Holmes. What follows makes for a novel that is funny, poignant and fascinating in its portrayal of a person whose curse and blessing are a mind that perceives the world entirely literally.

10th Grade

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

This novel explores themes of family, female community, and racial prejudice through the tale of a young girl’s search for acceptance, love, and a safe and happy home. It begins with the narrator, Lily Melissa Owens, recalling how her life changed drastically in 1962, when she was a 14-year-old white girl living in South Carolina. She thinks happily of bees visiting her in her room that summer and remembers capturing some of them in a jar. However, she mostly remembers the start of the summer as an unhappy time, where she lived as an outsider, unloved by her cruel and abusive father, T. Ray, and haunted by a terrible half-memory in which she believes she accidentally shot and killed her mother, Deborah, when she was a tiny child. This book invites the reader to wonder: what will Lily learn, how will she grow, and how will she deal with the horrible memory haunting her?

11th Grade

The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon

The story focuses on Natasha Kingsley, a Jamaican teenager who is being deported in less than 24 hours, and Daniel Bae, a Korean-American who happens to stumble upon her by what he believes to be fate. Natasha is doing everything in her power to stop her family from having to leave America. Daniel is on his way to a college admissions interview with Yale as requested by his parents. Instead he stumbles upon Natasha jamming out to music and ends up following her around New York. As the day progresses, Daniel attempts to persuade Natasha of their instant connection. They share countless cliche romantic moments all the while counting down the hours until Natasha is deported.

12th Grade

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote

Students who enjoy watching programs such as “CSI” and “Criminal Minds” will be especially interested in this book. In Cold Blood, first published in 1966, is a nonfiction novel written by Truman Capote. It details the 1959 murders of four members of the Herbert Clutter family, who lived in the small farming community of Holcomb, Kansas. When Capote learned of the quadruple murders (before the killers were captured) he traveled to Kansas and write about the crime. The book chronicles the investigation, the trial, the conviction, and the sentencing of those found guilty of the murders.
Woodbury Junior-Senior High School Summer Reading 2019

Assessments

Students will take an assessment on their summer reading book during the first two weeks of school in September. Students who earn an 80% or higher on their summer reading assessment will be invited to take part in some special activities and earn special rewards. Activities will include a movie and popcorn in the auditorium during a school day in early October.

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Summer Reading Contract

I have received the summer reading assignment for 2019-2020. I am aware of the requirements and expectations.

___________________________________________  ________________________
Student’s Signature                          Date