

Extra Credit

Check out the LHHS summer reading page for a list of recommended books you can read for extra credit.

<http://www.wallingford.k12.ct.us>



Tips for additional reading choices

- The American Library Association creates numerous lists. The list *Outstanding Books for the College Bound* is updated every five years. Examine this and other lists of award winning books including graphic novels at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/outstandingbooks/outstandingbooks.cfm>
- The public library frequently creates lists of books recommended to summer readers. Check out the Summer Reading program at the Wallingford Public Library.
- The Connecticut Digital Library (www.iconn.org) offers a database called *Books & Authors*. From home use your Wallingford Public Library card barcode number to access the database or stop by the public library for assistance.

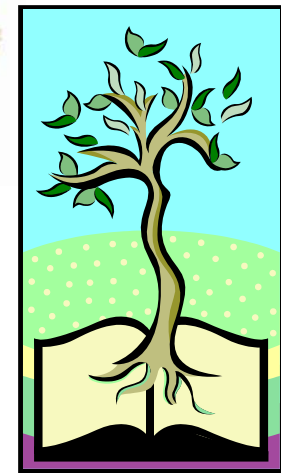
Why Read?

1. To gain insight into other lives, cultures, and ways of thinking
2. To see you're not alone and how others cope with problems
3. To learn how to express yourself more concisely and coherently
4. To improve your reading skills
5. To relax and get quiet time, just for yourself
6. To strengthen current ideas and values or to question them
7. To make connections and make sense of the world
8. To provide other perspectives on a topic or viewpoint
9. To have something to talk about besides gossip
10. To understand your friends well and your enemies better



Wallingford Public Schools

Lyman Hall Summer Reading 2012



**Strong Foundations Allow
Imaginations to Soar**

*Enjoy your summer vacation in the
company of a good book.*



www.wallingford.k12.ct.us

Lyman Hall Reads!



Dear Students and Parents:

Summer vacation presents a great opportunity to relax and enjoy a good book—or two! Literature stimulates our imaginations, transports us to different times and places, and enriches our lives. At LHHS, we believe that reading is key to academic success and life long learning. Our summer reading program consists of two parts.

1. **Required Summer Book:** Your English teacher has selected one book according to your grade and level. *You are required to read this book.* Use the essential questions to guide your reading. By September 15, you will be assessed in class on your understanding. You can check out the book at the Lyman Hall Library—we're open all summer!

2. **Extra Credit:** We know that you like to have choice in the books you read, so we have provided a list of recommended books in a variety of categories on our web site, as well as suggestions where to find other books that you might like. In September, you will complete a reader evaluation for extra credit in your English class. Your recommendations may end up on next year's list!

Parents often ask how they can remain involved in their adolescent's high school education. One way, simply, is to encourage young minds to develop a life long love of books.

Enjoy the gift of summer reading together.

Sincerely,

David Bryant
Principal

Susan Gomes
English Department Chair
sgomes@wallingford.k12.ct.us

Grade 9 - Courage

Basic <i>The Wave</i> by Todd Strasser	A classroom experiment goes too far and demonstrates the power of peer pressure. Based on real events in a Palo Alto, CA high school.
General <i>Speak</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson	Melinda, a lonely ninth grader, enters school with a secret she cannot bear to reveal, but she overcomes bullying, fear, and finds the courage to speak.
Academic <i>The Bean Trees</i> by Barbara Kingsolver	Taylor heads west in her old Volkswagen and soon finds herself taking care of an abandoned baby named Turtle. Together the two bloom in the Arizona desert where Taylor discovers that "family" has many meanings.
Honors <i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee	What is true courage? Is it a man who kills a rabid dog with one shot? An old woman who stares down death? A recluse who overcomes fear? A man who stands up for his convictions? Find out in Harper Lee's unforgettable Depression era classic.

Essential Questions:

How has the main character changed over time? How did the main character display courage? How did the experience affect the character? What did you learn?

Grade 11 - The Hero

General/Basic <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell	A razor-edged fairy tale for grown-ups about mistreated farm animals that stand up against oppression and injustice. Will they be able to live up to their seventh commandment, "All animals are equal"?
Academic <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time</i> by Mark Haddon	In this murder mystery of sorts, Christopher is a fifteen year old who is on the autism spectrum. He is a mathematical genius, but understanding people is mystery to him. His investigation of the murder leads to unexpected insights.
Honors <i>1984</i> by George Orwell	In this dystopian classic, one man struggles against the power of the state, Big Brother, and the Thought Police.
AP Language & Composition <i>The Once and Future King</i> by T.H. White Three Essays by George Orwell	Before he became King, Arthur--called Wart--was a boy who pulled a mythical sword from a stone and learned life lessons that speak to our time from Merlin the Magician. In these essays, Orwell writes incisively about social injustice, equality, and truth in language.

Essential Questions:

What is a hero? What obstacles does the main character face? How does the experience affect the character? What did you learn?

Grade 10 - The American Dream

General/Basic <i>Native Son (Part I)</i> by Richard Wright	Bigger Thomas personifies Wright's brutal portrayal of poverty, social injustice, and discrimination in 1940's Chicago.
Academic <i>Native Son (Parts I&II)</i>	
Honors <i>In Cold Blood</i> by Truman Capote	In the true story of a shocking 1959 mass murder in America's heartland, Capote explores the murderers' motivations and backgrounds of their victims, attempting to explain how the murders occurred in "cold blood."

Essential Questions:

What is the American Dream? How does the main character strive to achieve it? How does the experience affect the character? What did you learn?

Grade 12 - The Quest

General/Basic <i>The Things They Carried</i> by Tim O'Brien (Two stories)	Set in the Vietnam war era, these short stories give profound insight into the hearts and souls of men at war. Required: "On the Rainy River" and "The Man I Killed"
Academic <i>Interpreter of Maladies</i> by Jhumpa Lahiri	Although some of these short stories are set in America and others in India, they are united by their sensitive interpretation of what it means to feel like a stranger in a strange land.
Honors <i>Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close</i> by Jonathan Safran Foer	Precocious Oskar searches New York City with a key that he hopes will unlock the secret of his father's death in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.
UConn ECE/AP Lit. <i>Invisible Man</i> by Ralph Ellison <i>Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close</i> by Jonathan Safran Foer <i>Perrine's Literature:</i> by Arp and Johnson	A journey of self-discovery and identity for the "invisible man" and the reader. "Unforgettable." Precocious Oskar searches New York City with a key that he hopes will unlock the secret of his father's death in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Assigned poetry and readings.

Essential Questions: What is identity? What obstacles does the main character face? How does the experience affect who the character becomes? What did you learn?