



CONCORD

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Middle School Summer Reading

Students are to choose **ONE** of the following books to read over the summer. Then, upon beginning the school year, students will be required to complete a project based upon the book they chose to read.

The project information will be given to students on the first day of official classes, **August 15, 2023**, and the project will be due **Friday, September 1, 2023**.

GRADE LEVEL CHOICES:

6th Grade:

- *The Magician's Nephew* - C.S. Lewis
- *The Bronze Bow* - Elizabeth Speare
- *Tuck Everlasting* - Natalie Babbitt

7th Grade:

- *Where the Red Fern Grows*—Wilson Rawls
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* – Scott O'Dell
- HONORS additional read: *CS Lewis- Master Storyteller*—Janet & Geoff Bengé

8th Grade:

- *The Horse and His Boy*—C.S. Lewis
- *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*—Agatha Christie
- HONORS additional read: *The Scarlet Pimpernel*— Baroness Orczy

Novel Summaries

6th Grade:

The Magician's Nephew - C.S. Lewis

Digory and Polly meet and become friends one cold, wet summer in London. Their lives burst into adventure when Digory's Uncle Andrew, who thinks he is a magician, sends them hurtling to...somewhere else. They find their way into Narnia, newborn from the Lion's song, and encounter the evil sorceress Jadis before they finally return home.

The Bronze Bow-Elizabeth Speare

The Bronze Bow is a story set in Galilee in biblical times during the Roman occupation of Israel. After witnessing the crucifixion of his father and subsequent demise of his mother, a young Jewish boy, named Daniel, vows



CONCORD

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

revenge on the Romans. His hatred of them is overwhelming and governs his entire life. Daniel's initial attempts at war and love both fail, and he finally accepts the realization that he must choose one of them and give up the other.

***Tuck Everlasting* - Natalie Babbitt**

Winnie Foster is a ten-year-old girl who yearns to discover what's outside the fence of her home. Exploring her family's small forest one day, she comes across Jesse Tuck and the fresh-water spring that, after he and his family drank from it, turned them immortal. The Tucks have kept their secret from the outside world for the past eighty years by hiding the spring and living in seclusion. Winnie is the first person outside the family to hear their story.

7th Grade:

***Where the Red Fern Grows*—Wilson Rawls**

A loving threesome, they ranged the dark hills and river bottoms of Cherokee County. Old Dan had the brawn, Little Ann had the brains—and Billy had the will to train them to be the finest hunting team in the valley. Glory and victory were coming to them, but sadness waited too. And close by was the strange and wonderful power that's only found...

***Island of the Blue Dolphins*—Scott O'Dell**

Island of the Blue Dolphins is a novel based on a true story by a woman who lived on San Nicolas Island. The girl, Karana, was an 18-year-old Native American who lived on an island near California. She was found by a captain and he wrote in his journal everything he found out about her. Karana was left alone on the island by accident and she had to cope on her own with her situation. She spent her days building weapons and tools which helped her survive.

HONORS ADDITIONAL READ: C.S. Lewis—*The Master Storyteller*

From his earliest childhood, C.S. Lewis loved to hear and tell stories. Persuaded that stories could reveal the truth about the real world in a unique way, the literature professor would write more than thirty books, including science fiction, theology, literary criticism, and fantasy. In an era marked by two world wars, Lewis attacked tough questions about life and faith headfirst. Convinced that the story of Jesus Christ is the truest of all stories, and known for searching out the truth with honesty, clarity, and imagination, the former atheist would become one of the most influential Christians of the twentieth century (1898-1963).

8th Grade:

***The Horse and His Boy*—C.S. Lewis**

The Horse and his Boy is a stirring and dramatic fantasy story that finds a young boy named Shasta on the run from his homeland with the talking horse, Bree. When the pair discover a deadly plot by the Calormen people to conquer the land of Narnia, the race is on to warn the inhabitants of the impending danger and to rescue them all from certain death.

***The Mysterious Affair at Styles*—Agatha Christie**

Agatha Christie's debut novel was also the first to feature Hercule Poirot, her famously eccentric Belgian detective. A refugee of the Great War, Poirot has settled in England near Styles Court, the country estate of his wealthy benefactor, the elderly Emily Inglethorp. When Emily is poisoned and the authorities are baffled, Poirot puts his



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CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

prodigious sleuthing skills to work. Suspects are plentiful, including the victim's much younger husband, her resentful stepsons, her longtime hired companion, a young family friend working as a nurse, and a London specialist on poisons who just happens to be visiting the nearby village. All of them have secrets they are desperate to keep, but none can outwit Poirot as he navigates the ingenious red herrings and plot twists that contribute to Agatha Christie's well-deserved reputation as the queen of mystery.

HONORS ADDITIONAL READ: *The Scarlet Pimpernel*—Baroness Orczy

Armed with only his wits and his cunning, one man recklessly defies the French revolutionaries and rescues scores of innocent men, women, and children from the deadly guillotine. His friends and foes know him only as the Scarlet Pimpernel. But the ruthless French agent Chauvelin is sworn to discover his identity and to hunt him down.