

Incoming Eighth Grade Reading List

Students entering eighth grade must read the required text, **Airman** and one (1) books from the recommended list. To ensure good recall of major themes and elements of the text, students are strongly urged to take notes on each book and record major characters, conflicts, settings and themes. Objective tests will be administered during the first week of school and students will also write an essay during the first few weeks of the first term.

REQUIRED:

Colfer, Eoin. Airman, 2008.

In the 1890's on an island off the Irish coast, Conor Broekhart is falsely imprisoned and passes the solitary months by scratching designs of flying machines into the walls, including one for a glider with which he dreams of escape.

Select two additional books from this list:

Dows, Siobhan. The London Eye Mystery, 2007.

When Ted and Kat watched their cousin Salim get on board the London Eye, he turned and waved before getting on. But after an hour it landed and everyone trooped off – but no Salim. Where could he have gone? How on earth could he have disappeared into thin air? So Ted and his older sister, Kat, become sleuthing partners, since the police are having no luck. Despite their prickly relationship, they overcome their differences to follow a trail of clues across London in a desperate bid to find their cousin.

Hobbs, Will. Downriver, 1996.

Jessie and the other rebellious teenage members of a wilderness survival school team abandon their adult leader and try to run the dangerous white water of the Grand Canyon alone. They soon learn a lot about themselves and their group.

Hoffman, Beth. Saving CeeCee Honeycutt, 2010.

Twelve-year-old CeeCee is in trouble. For years she's been the caretaker of her mother. Camille—the crown-wearing, lipstick-smearing laughingstock of the entire town. Though it's 1967 and they live in Ohio, Camille believes it's 1951 and she's just been crowned the Vidalia Onion Queen of Georgia. When tragedy strikes, Tootie Caldwell, a previously unknown great-aunt comes to CeeCee's rescue and whisks her away to Savannah. Within hours of her arrival, CeeCee is catapulted into a perfumed world of prosperity and Southern eccentricities.—

Kornam, Gordon. The Abduction, 2006

As Aiden and his sister Meg are walking home from school on day, a van pulls over and Meg is kidnapped. There's no way for Aiden to stop it from happening. He's the only witness to his sister's disappearance. While Meg fends off her kidnappers and plans an escape, Aiden must team up with the FBI to try to find her—tracking down clues only a brother could recognize.

Blumenthal, Karen. Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different, 2012.

Inventor. Visionary. Genius. Dropout. Steve Jobs was the founder of Apple and he was all of these things. Through his life he was loved, hated, admired, and dismissed, yet he was a living legend; the genius who founded Apple in his parent's garage when he was just 21 years-old, revolutionizing the music world. He single-handedly introduced the first computer that could sit on your desk and founded and nurtured a company called Pixar. How did the man, who was neither engineer nor computer geek, change the world we live in?

Draper, Sharon. Out of my mind, 2012.

Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom—the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged, because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.

Orwell, George. "1984"

Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching...