

Dear Soon-To-Be 8th Graders,

Many of you have already indicated that you're looking forward to 8th grade, and there's no better way to start than to read! It's one of the best ways to prepare for your last year of Middle School!

The theme in 8th grade is *Taking a Stand*, which is seen in a many ways: standing up for one's beliefs, standing up in support of another, standing up for one's country, etc. Most of the books on the 8th grade list reveal that theme in uniquely different ways.

Another focus in many of the 8th grade books is cultural differences or making a decision to break out of cultural traditions. They cover ideas from the countries we will be studying in 8th grade. Even in those books, the idea of *Taking a Stand* is quite strong.

The Summer Reading Program will begin soon. Once again, you will be required to read three books, two from the 8th grade list and one of your own choice. All of the books on the list can be purchased through Amazon.com, are available in many bookstores, or may be borrowed from the CAJ library before the end of school. (The CAJ library will be open on Mondays during the summer.)

Remember, one of the most important purposes in reading is to enjoy it. So, find a good book, take it to your favorite summer spot, and get off to a running start next fall!

Happy Reading!

Miss Fischer

**SUMMER READING 8 GUIDELINES:**

Students will be asked to read **3 books**: **two** from the **Summer Reading 8** list and **one** of their own choice. The list is below, but it can also be viewed on the CAJ website <[www.caj.or.jp](http://www.caj.or.jp)>. (Click on the Library icon, then the 8th Grade Book List.)

Upon completion of each book, students should do the following:

(1) Send an email to the [mssummerreading@caj.or.jp](mailto:mssummerreading@caj.or.jp) address

OR

Access the **grade 8 Summer Reading Online Report Form** from the CAJ website:

<http://community.caj.or.jp/library/summerreading.php>

(2) In your email or online report, please include the following:

- Your **GRADE** in the subject
- Your **FULL NAME** (your handwriting doesn't help in this case!)
- TITLE** of book
- AUTHOR** of book

(3) Then, choosing a different report method for each book, write 2-3 paragraphs to answer one of the following:

- Describe how the theme of *Taking a Stand* is seen in one of the characters.
- Describe how South East Asian history is a necessary part of the main plot.
- Explain your expectations at the beginning of the book and how/why you were satisfied or disappointed at the end.
- Write a full character description of one main character.

4) The reports must be SUBMITTED BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Be creative, enjoy the reading, and be ready for next year!

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SUMMER READING '10

_____ Abeel, Samantha	<b>My 13th Winter</b>	_____ Gratz, Alan	<b>Samurai Shortstop</b>
_____ Avi	<b>Nothing But the Truth</b>	_____ Gold, Alison	<b>A Special Fate</b>
_____ Avi	<b>The Traitor's Gate</b>	_____ Grisham, John	<b>Runaway Jury</b>
_____ Baliett, Blue	<b>Chasing Vermeer</b>	_____ Grisham, John	<b>Skipping Christmas</b>
_____ Baliett, Blue	<b>The Wright 3</b>	_____ Grisham, John	<b>The Street Lawyer</b>
_____ Bauer, Joan	<b>Hope Was Here</b>	_____ Grisham, John	<b>The Testament</b>
_____ Birdsall, Jeanne	<b>The Penderwicks</b>	_____ Henkes, Kevin	<b>Olive's Ocean</b>
_____ Bode, N. E.	<b>The Nobodies</b>	_____ Hiassen, Carl	<b>Flush</b>
_____ Bowen, Asta	<b>Wolf, the Journey Home</b>	_____ Hilton, James	<b>Goodbye, Mr. Chips</b>
_____ Boyne, John	<b>The Boy in Striped Pajamas</b>	_____ Kadohata, Cynthia	<b>Kira-kira</b>
_____ Carmi, Daniella	<b>Samir and Yonatan</b>	_____ Kadohata, Cynthia	<b>Weedflower</b>
_____ Clements, Andrew	<b>Things Not Seen</b>	_____ Kidd, Ronald	<b>Monkey Town</b>
_____ Cushman, Karen	<b>Midwife's Apprentice</b>	_____ Kim, Helen	<b>The Long Season of Rain</b>
_____ Cushman, Karen	<b>The Loud Silence of Francine Green</b>	_____ Lawhead, Stephen	<b>Byzantium</b>
_____ Fenner, Carol	<b>The King of Dragons</b>	_____ Lewis, C. S.	<b>Out of the Silent Planet</b>
_____ Fenner, Carol	<b>Yolanda's Genius</b>	_____ Lowry, Lois	<b>Messenger</b>
_____ Fleischman, Sid	<b>The Whipping Boy</b>	_____ Lowry, Lois	<b>Gossamer</b>
_____ Funke, Cornelia	<b>Dragon Rider</b>	_____ Magorian, Michelle	<b>Good Night, Mr. Tom</b>
_____ Funke, Cornelia	<b>Thief Lord</b>	_____ McCaughrean, G.	<b>Cyrano</b>
_____ Funke, Cornelia	<b>Inkheart</b>	_____ Muchamore, Robert	<b>The Recruit</b>
_____ Funke, Cornelia	<b>Inkspell</b>	_____ Namioka, Lensey	<b>Ties That Bind, Ties That Break</b>

_____ Napoli, Donna Jo	<b>Daughter of Venice</b>	_____ Weeks, Sarah	<b>So B. It</b>
_____ Orr, Wendy	<b>Peeling the Onion</b>	_____ Whelan, Gloria	<b>Chu Ju's House</b>
_____ Park, Linda Sue	<b>When My Name Was Keoko</b>	_____ Yep, Lawrence	<b>Dragon's Gate</b>
_____ Paterson, Katherine	<b>Jacob Have I Loved</b>	_____ Yolen, Jane &	<b>Trollbridge</b>
_____ Paterson, Katherine	<b>Master Puppeteer</b>	_____ Adam Stemple	
_____ Peck, Dale	<b>Drift House</b>		
_____ Peck, Richard	<b>The Teacher's Funeral</b>		
_____ Peck, Richard	<b>Here Lies the Librarian</b>		
_____ Raskin, Ellen	<b>The Westing Game</b>		
_____ Rinaldi, Ann	<b>Hang a Thousand Trees With Ribbons</b>		
_____ Sachar, Louis	<b>Small Steps</b>		
_____ Salisbury, Graham	<b>Eyes of the Emperor</b>		
_____ Salisbury, Graham	<b>House of the Red Fish</b>		
_____ Sheth, Kashmira	<b>Koyal Dark, Mango Sweet</b>		
_____ Smith, Gordon	<b>The Forest in the Hallway</b>		
_____ Spinelli, Jerry	<b>Milkweed</b>		
_____ Steinbeck, John	<b>Of Mice and Men</b>		
_____ Uchida, Yoshiko	<b>Journey to Topaz</b>		
_____ Updale, Eleanor	<b>Montmorency: Thief, Liar, Gent.?</b>		
_____ Updale, Eleanor	<b>Montmorency: Dr., Aristocrat...?</b>		
_____ Updale, Eleanor	<b>Montmorency and the Assassins</b>		