

8th Grade Summer Reading 2015

Our Lady of Sorrows School

Upcoming 8th grade students will be **required** to read **one** selected book and complete a book report form available online, <http://www.olsschool.com/>. Enjoy hot summer days with good books. ☺

Required Reading for 8th grade (choose one)

Child of the Dark Prophecy, book 1 of the **Great Tree of Avalon** trilogy, by T.A. Barron
Long ago the wizard Merlin planted a magical seed that grew into Avalon, a huge tree bridging heaven and earth, whose roots frame seven different worlds -- home to eagle folk, sprites, changelings, fairies, humans and animals. All lived in harmony until dark forces disrupted the balance of life. Who is the child of the dark prophecy fated to destroy Avalon? Who is the heir of Merlin destined to save it? Join three unlikely heroes on an adventure of a lifetime. Drawing on Arthurian legend and imagining his own fantastic story, Barron writes a page-turner that will keep you guessing and enthralled.

The Lost Years: Book 1 (Merlin) by T. A. Barron

“A raging sea tosses a boy upon the shores of ancient Wales. Left for dead, he has no memory, no name, and no home. But it is his determination to find out who he is—to learn the truth about his mysterious powers—that leads him to a strange and enchanted land. And it is there he discovers that the fate of this land and his personal quest are strangely entwined.” – from Amazon website

Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer

“When it comes to creating strong, independent, and funny teenaged female characters, Bauer is in a class by herself and the 16-year-old waitress in this book is no exception. Hope Yancy and her Aunt Addie, a much-sought-after diner cook, have toured the country, one diner at a time. With each move, the teen leaves her mark, “HOPE WAS HERE,” in ballpoint pen somewhere on the premises. Now in Mulhoney, Wisconsin, she has no idea that the residents of this small town will make their mark on her.” – School Library Journal

Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson

“Cole Matthews is a 15-year-old, baby-faced con. The child of wealthy, abusive, alcoholic parents, Cole has been getting into trouble most of his life. One day, he beats a fellow student so severely the boy suffers permanent physical damage. [This] is the story of Cole’s redemption; it’s also a look at an unusual justice system. Cole’s parole officer arranges for Cole to face “Circle Justice,” a Native American tradition. The Circle decides that Cole must spend a year, by himself on a remote Alaskan island.” – Booklist

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

“Thirteen-year-old Steven has a totally normal life: he plays drums in the All-Star Jazz band, has a crush on the hottest girl in the school, and is constantly annoyed by his five-year-old brother, Jeffrey. But when Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia, Steven's world is turned upside down. He is forced to deal with his brother's illness and his parents' attempts to keep the family in one piece. Salted with humor and peppered with devastating realities, [this story] is a heartwarming journey through a year in the life of a family in crisis.” –from Amazon website