

# Tunica Academy

## 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Summer Reading

You are required to read two books from the list below over the summer. You will need to be prepared to take an AR test on them when you get back to school. It will count as a grade and will also go towards your AR points for the year!

### *The Schwa Was Here* by Neal Shusterman- A

Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is tired of blending into his surroundings and going unnoticed by nearly everyone.

*The Juvie Three* by Gordon Korman- Gecko, Arjay, and Terence, all in trouble with the law, must find a way to keep their halfway house open in order to stay out of juvenile detention.

*Among the Hidden* or any book from the Shadow Children Series by Margaret Peterson Haddix - In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

*Flush* by Carl Hiaasen- With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of the floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.

*The Seventh Most Important Thing* by Shelley Pearsall- In 1963, thirteen-year-old Arthur is sentenced to community

service helping the neighborhood Junk Man after Arthur throws a brick at the old man's head in a moment of rage, but the junk he collects might be more important than he suspects.

*Heat by Mike Lupica*- Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof.

*Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie*- While the train is stopped in a Balkan snowdrift, Poirot must solve the problem of the dead American.

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace*

*Lin*- Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish and then joins a dragon on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of discovering how to change her family's fortune.

*The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene Du Bois*- This tale relates the incredible adventures of Professor William Waterman Sherman, who in 1883 journeys in a balloon across the Pacific Ocean, survives the volcanic eruption of Krakatoa, and is eventually rescued in the Atlantic Ocean.

*The Girl Who Threw Butterflies by Mick Cochrane*- Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which not only helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father, who loved baseball, it helps in other aspects of her life as well.

*Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata*- A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his scout dog.

*Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt- Young Jethro Creighton grows from a boy to a man when he is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois during the difficult years of the Civil War.

*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson- Based on James Swanson's bestselling adult book *MANHUNT: THE 12-DAY CHASE FOR LINCOLN'S KILLER*, this young adult version is an accessible look at the assassination of a president and describes Abraham Lincoln, the man, the father, and the husband.

*The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan- Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. His mother sends him to a summer camp for demigods, where he and his new friends set out on a quest to prevent a war between the gods. Book #1

*Girl Who Drank The Moon* by Kelly Barnhill- A witch, a swamp monster, and a perfectly tiny dragon raise a young girl named Luna, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her to save the people of the Protectorate.

*No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War* by Anita Lobel- The author, known as an illustrator of children's books, describes her experiences as a Polish Jew during World War II and her life in Sweden after the war

*The Lions of Little Rock* by Kristin Levine- In 1958 Little Rock, Arkansas, painfully shy twelve-year-old Marlee sees her city and family divided over school integration, but her friendship with Liz, a new student, helps her find her voice and fight against racism.

*Crash* by Jerry Spinelli- Seventh-grader "Crash" Coogan is comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with a Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander- Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

*Lost in the Pacific, 1942: Not a Drop to Drink* by Tod Olson- In 1942 during World War II, a B-17 with eight men aboard, including the famous Eddie Rickenbacker, crashed into the Pacific Ocean. In three inflatable rafts and surrounded by 68 million square miles of ocean, the men struggled to survive.

*Lincoln's Grave Robber* by Steve Sheinkin- This dramatic account of the 1875 attempt to steal the sixteenth president's body describes how a counterfeiting ring plotted to ransom Lincoln's body to secure the release of their imprisoned ringleader.

*Wandmakers* by Ed Masessa- Henry Leach the Eighth doesn't know it yet, but he has descended from a long line of wandmakers, which means he has inherited mysterious powers, a trunk full of strange artifacts, and a whole host of problems. The plot contains violence.

*Whitefang* by Jack London- This classic tale tells of a savage dog's transformation through love.

*The Pearl* by John Steinbeck- Kino, a poor Mexican pearl-diver, believes he has received the answer to his prayers when he finds a great pearl worth a fortune, but tragedy soon follows.