June 2020

Dear Students and Parents of John Jay Middle School,

At JJMS we place a high value on independent reading. Students are expected to read regularly as part of their homework. Summer is a wonderful time to relax and learn with good books. We hope that you will find many reading opportunities this summer. While there is no reading requirement over the summer, we are happy to provide appropriate and popular titles to assist you in making selections. Our list, for incoming 6th, 7th and 8th graders, is meant as a guide to help you find books and build your stamina.

This year, students currently at the middle school began recording their reading journeys in a digital reading portfolio, created using Padlet. We encourage our students to continue to add to their portfolio throughout the summer, as this will be a helpful guide for them when school resumes in the fall.

Our JJMS Summer Reading Guide is organized by genre, and all the titles on this list are available in the JJMS eBook collection or the Westchester Library System (WLS) eBook collection. Students can easily access these eBooks by going to the middle school website, clicking on Library Media Center under Quick Links, and then clicking on JJMS eBook Library towards the bottom of the page. There are also video tutorials on how to access eBooks from JJMS and WLS on the JJMS Library page, as well as the JJMS Library YouTube Channel.

Parents, we understand that the emotional maturity and reading ability of middle school students varies tremendously. We recognize that you are the best judges in guiding your child’s selections. We hope that you will find our Summer Reading Guide helpful.

Happy Reading!

The English Department
The Library Media Specialist
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Top Ten Books Checked Out by JJMS Students
Adventure

**Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25** *Richard Paul Evans*
Fourteen-year-old Michael discovers he has special electrical powers and, with the help of his best friends, becomes aware that there are other teens with similar powers, but something or someone is hunting them and, after Michael’s mother is kidnapped, he will need to rely on his powers and his friends to rescue his mom, protect himself, and save the others.

**All Fall Down** *Ally Carter*
Grace knows that someone murdered her mother, and she’s going to do her best to make them pay. But it won’t be easy for her. As the granddaughter of an ambassador, she must carry out her mission while remaining as diplomatic as possible.

**Loot** *Jude Watson*
When one of the world’s most notorious burglars falls during a job, his last words to his son send him on a mission to find his long-lost twin sister. When the two finally get together, they are sent to an orphanage. But once there, they realize that they want to carry on their father’s life of crime.

**The Paladin Prophecy** *Mark Frost*
Will finds himself on the run after scoring ridiculously high on a national test. He doesn’t know what the men chasing him are after, but his only hope is to seek refuge at an exclusive boarding school. But his troubles are only just beginning...

**The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable** *Dan Gutman*
Twins Coke and Pepsi McDonald’s summer vacation road trip suddenly turns dangerous when they find out that they are part of a secret organization. Their mission: stop a terrorist attack that is set to happen at the site of the world's largest ball of twine!

**Navigating Early** *Clare Vanderpool*
The adventure of two boys who end up on a life-changing trip on the Appalachian Trail, where they deal with pirates, buried secrets, and extraordinary encounters.

**Spy School** *Stuart Gibbs*
Twelve-year-old Ben Ripley leaves his public middle school to attend the CIA’s highly secretive Espionage Academy, which everyone is told is an elite science school.

**Peak** *Roland Smith*
A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.
**Biography**

**Guts: The True Story Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books** *Gary Paulsen*
Gary Paulsen relates the nature lore and autobiographical incidents behind the wilderness survival scenario of Hatchet and many of his other popular books.

**I Will Always Write Back** *Caitlin Alifarenka and Martin Ganda*
The incredible true story of how two people became pen pals, and the friendship that developed changes their lives forever. Caitlin, a young girl from the US, begins writing to Martin, who lives in Zimbabwe. Their lives are very different. But when Caitlin finds out how difficult Martin’s life is, she decides to do everything she can to help him.

**Hidden Figures – Young Reader’s Edition** *Margot Lee Shetterly*
A powerful story about four young African American women known as “human computers,” who were essential to the success of NASA. These women were mathematicians, and they used their knowledge to launch rockets and astronauts into outer space.

**Code Name Pauline** *Kathryn Atwood*
World War II resistance fighter Pearl Witherington Cornioley describes her experiences as a special agent for the British Special Operations Executive (SOE).

**Classics**

**A Wrinkle in Time** *Madeline L’Engle*
Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time, assisted by three otherworldly women, when they set out to find Meg’s father, a physicist who disappeared while experimenting with time travel. Also available as a graphic novel!

**The Jungle Book** *Rudyard Kipling*
Mowgli, left alone in the jungle as a toddler after his parents are run off by Shere Khan, a Bengal tiger, grows to adulthood with the help of kind animals, always knowing his own showdown with the tiger is yet to come.

**The Call of the Wild** *Jack London*
This is an adventure of a dog that is part St. Bernard, part Scotch Shepherd. He is forcibly taken to the Klondike gold fields where he becomes leader of a wolf pack.

**Anne of Green Gables** *L.M. Montgomery*
Marilla Cuthbert and her brother Matthew want to adopt an orphan to help on the farm at Green Gables. They ask for a boy, but they get Anne, who has red hair and freckles, a big heart and who talks and talks and talks.
Fantasy

**Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky** *Kwame Mbalia*
Tristan is spending a month on his grandparents’ farm in Alabama, but on his first night he follows a strange creature and ends up in MidPass, in the middle of a battle featuring African American folk heroes and West African gods.

**Keeper of the Lost Cities** *Shannon Messenger*
Sophie, who can read minds, meets another telepath named Fitz who takes her away from her family and everything she has ever known, and brings to a new and strange place. There, Sophie must confront the truth about who she really is and reveal the secrets about her past.

**The Storm Runner** *J.C. Cervantes*
To prevent the Mayan gods from battling each other and destroying the world, thirteen-year-old Zane must unravel an ancient prophecy, stop an evil god, and discover how the physical disability that makes him reliant on a cane also connects him to his father and his ancestry.

**The Serpent’s Secret** *Sayantani DasGupta*
On her 12th birthday, Kiranmala comes home from school to find that her parents have been taken, and there is a demon in her house trying to eat her. She must team up with two strange boys who come to her rescue, enter another dimension, and save her parents as well as the entire world.

**100 Cupboards** *N.D. Wilson*
Twelve-year-old Henry York and his cousin Henrietta embark on a series of adventures after he discovers one hundred hidden portals to other worlds in the bedroom wall of his aunt and uncle’s house.

**Ruins of Gorlan: The Ranger’s Apprentice Series, Book 1** *John Flanagan*
When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battle school, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger. 11 exciting books in all.

**Artemis Fowl** *Eoin Colfer*
When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

**Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer** *Rick Riordan*
To prevent Ragnarok (the end of the world), Magnus Chase, the son of a great Viking god, must search the Nine Worlds for a weapon that has been lost for thousands of years.

**Wings of Fire: The Dragonet Prophesy** *Tui T. Sutherland*
Clay and four other MudWing dragonets were stolen from their homes while they were still in their eggs. They have been hidden for years in order to fulfill a prophecy claiming that the dragonets would end the war between the dragon tribes. But not all of the dragonets want their destiny. Also available as a graphic novel!

**Iron King** *Julie Kagawa*
Sixteen-year-old Meghan has always felt like something in her life has been slightly off, ever since her father disappeared when she was six. She soon learns that she is the daughter of a mythical faery king and becomes involved in a deadly war.
**Graphic Novels**

**New Kid** *Jerry Craft*
This year’s Newbery Award winner! 7th grader Jordan has just been enrolled in an elite private school where student diversity is very low. As the new kid, Jordan is torn between this new life and the old life (and friends) he has left behind.

**Amulet: The Stonekeeper** *Kazu Kibuishi*
Emily’s family to her great-grandfather’s strange old house after the death of her father. It’s not long before a terrible creature lures her mother into another world through a door in the basement. Emily and her brother must follow her and join forces with some very interesting individuals in order to get her back.

**Roller Girl** *Victoria Jamieson*
Astrid signs up for roller derby camp but faces many challenges when it turns out she is not a great skater. Plus, her best friend suddenly wants to hang out with the mean girl at school. Can Astrid keep it all together?

**The Cardboard Kingdom** *Chad Sell*
What starts as a game between two siblings turns into an epic adventure as a group of kids use cardboard and their imagination to transform their neighborhood into a kingdom during their summer vacation. They will go on to battle monsters, knights and robots, and learn a lot about themselves.

**Camp** *Kayla Miller*
Olive is ready to go off to summer camp with her best friend Willow. But once they arrive, trouble starts, and their friendship may not survive the summer.

**One Dead Spy** *Nathan Hale*
Part of a series that shines a light on different historical events, this graphic novel focuses on the life of America’s first spy. An officer during the Revolutionary War, Nathan Hale (same name as the author!) worked undercover as a spy for the Americans and suffered some truly gruesome conditions.

**The Prince and the Dressmaker** *Jen Wang*
Prince Sebastian’s parents want him to get married. But all he wants to do is protect his secret identity, Lady Crystallia, and his love of beautiful dresses. His best friend (and dressmaker) Frances is one of two people who know his secret. But Frances has dreams too, and she doesn’t know if she should protect her friend or chase her dreams.

**Sunny Side Up** *Jennifer L. Holm*
Sunny’s summer vacation is not going according to plan. Shipped off to stay with her grandfather, she finds out that things aren’t as fun in Florida as she thought. Instead of spending her days at Disney, she’s stuck in her grandfather’s community...which is full of old people. She must find a way to make her own fun.
Historical Fiction

**Grade 6**

**Crispin: The Cross of Lead** (Middle Ages) *Avi*
Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphan peasant-boy in fourteenth century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret. Available in the JJMS eBook Library. Winner of the 2003 Newbery Award.

**I Survived the Destruction of Pompeii** *Lauren Tarshis*
Marcus and his father are one of the few people in Pompeii who are concerned when the ground starts to move beneath their feet. It has happened before, and it always stops after a few minutes. But when the volcano actually erupts, everyone is in trouble, including Marcus.

**The Shakespeare Stealer** *Gary Blackwood*
A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon** *Grace Lin*
Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and the joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River. A 2012 Newbery Honor book.

**Sphinx's Princess** *Esther M. Friesner*
Although she is a dutiful daughter, Nefertiti's dancing abilities, remarkable beauty, and intelligence garner attention near and far, so much so that her family is summoned to the Egyptian royal court, where Nefertiti becomes a pawn in the power play of her scheming aunt, Queen Tiye.

**Beyond the Bright Sea** *Lauren Wolk*
Twelve-year-old Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny, isolated piece of the starkly beautiful Elizabeth Islands in Massachusetts. Abandoned and set adrift on a small boat when she was just hours old, Crow's only companions are Osh, the man who rescued and raised her, and Miss Maggie, their fierce and affectionate neighbor across the sandbar.
Crow has always been curious about the world around her, but it isn't until the night a mysterious fire appears across the water that the unspoken question of her own history forms in her heart. Soon, an unstoppable chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.

**One Crazy Summer** *Rita Williams Garcia*
In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.
**Historical Fiction**

**Grade 7**

*A Break with Charity* *Ann Rinaldi*
While waiting for a church meeting in 1706, Susanna English, daughter of a wealthy Salem merchant, recalls the malice, fear, and accusations of witchcraft that tore her village apart in 1692.

**Woods Runner** *Gary Paulsen*
Samuel’s village has been attacked by the British and their Iroquois allies, and his parents have been taken. Samuel follows them, hoping to find a way to come to their rescue. Along the way, he gets a good look at how the war is raging around him and meets many people who are doing their best to help the patriots.

**Alex and Eliza** *Melissa de la Cruz*
As the Revolutionary War rages on, Eliza wants to do everything she can to support the brave troops fighting for freedom. However, her mother wants to see her three daughters married into wealthy, respectable families. When Eliza first meets the impoverished Colonel Alexander Hamilton, she wants nothing to do with him. But as their paths continue to cross, she can’t deny that there is something that keeps drawing the two together.

**Seeds of America Trilogy** *Laurie Halse Anderson*
- **Chains** (Volume 1): After being sold to a cruel couple in NYC, Isabel spies for the patriots during the American Revolution.
- **Forge** (Volume 2): Corazon and Isabel spend the winter at Valley Forge with Washington’s army.
- **Ashes** (Volume 3): Isabel and Corazon, reported as runaways, head south to find Isabel’s sister.

**The Captain’s Dog** *Roland Smith*
The story of Lewis and Clark’s incredible journey across America, told from the perspective of a dog. Born the runt of his litter, Seaman the Newfoundland puppy had a difficult beginning. But his life changed when he met Captain Meriwether Lewis and joined the expedition to cross the country.

**Heart of a Samurai: Based on the True Story of Nakahama Manjiro** *Margi Preus*
In 1841, rescued by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro, who dreams of becoming a samurai, learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

**Stonewall Hinkleman and the Battle of Bull Run** *Tom Angleberger*
Stonewall Hinkleman’s parents love reenacting Civil War battles. But when Stonewall is transported back to the REAL Civil War along with Mr. Dupree, who wants to change the outcome of the entire war, he must use what he knows about the Battle of Bull Run to make sure it isn’t changed.
Outrun the Moon *Stacey Lee*
Mercy Wong is living in San Francisco in 1906 when a historic earthquake rocks the city on April 18th, destroying her home and school. In this incredible survival story, Mercy decides to do whatever she can to help her family and her city rebuild.

Hattie Big Sky *Kirby Larson*
Hattie, an orphan, heads to Montana after inheriting her uncle’s homesteading claim. She overcomes enormous obstacles, makes friends, and befriends German American neighbors facing prejudice because of World War I.

Ringside 1925: Views from the Scopes Trial *Jennifer Bryant*
The year is 1925, and the students of Dayton, Tennessee, are ready for a summer of fishing, swimming, some working, and drinking root beer floats at Robinson's Drugstore. But when their science teacher, J. T. Scopes, is arrested for having taught Darwin's theory of evolution in class, it seems it won't be just any ordinary summer in Dayton.

Resistance *Jennifer A. Nielsen*
Chaya has been working for the Jewish resistance, smuggling goods (and people) in and out of the Jewish ghettos in Poland. But after a mission goes wrong and the group is forced to disband, Chaya receives a message from a fellow resistance worker that leads her to the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Girl in the Blue Coat *Monica Hesse*
Hanneke, who lives in Amsterdam, sells black market goods to her neighbors. But when one of them confesses that she has been hiding a young Jewish woman in her house, and that the woman has disappeared, Hanneke must find out where she went before the Nazis catch up to her.

The War that Saved My Life and The War I Finally Won *Kimberly Bradley*
Ada and her little brother Jamie have been evacuated to the English countryside to avoid the bombing of London during World War II. Because of Ada's clubfoot, she has been mistreated by her cruel and bitter mother.

A Night Divided *Jennifer A. Nielsen*
Gerta finds herself separated from half her family when the Berlin Wall goes up in 1961. But when she receives a mysterious message from her father, she decides she's going to do whatever it takes to reunite her family, with or without their help.

The Mighty Miss Malone *Christopher Paul Curtis*
Deza Malone, the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, accompanies her mother and older brother on a trip to find her father, an African American man who left to find work after the Great Depression hit. They end up in a Hooserville outside of Flint, Michigan, and her brother attempts to be a performer while Deza and her mother search for a home.
**Mystery**

**Space Case** *Stuart Gibbs*
Dash lives on the moon with his family and a group of scientists. When one of the doctors on board dies, Dash is the only one who knows it was a murder. He must solve the case before the killer strikes again.

**Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children** *Ransom Riggs*
Sixteen-year-old Jacob, having traveled to a remote island after a family tragedy, discovers an abandoned orphanage, and, after some investigating, he learns, the children who lived there may have been dangerous and quarantined, and they may also still be alive.

**House of Salt and Sorrows** *Erin A. Craig*
Annaleigh lives in a castle on an island with her father, stepmother, and her many sisters. Except three of her sisters are now dead, and Annaleigh is seeing their ghosts around the castle. She fears that more of them are in danger, but which sister will be next?

**The House with a Clock in its Walls** *John Bellairs*
A boy goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion that has a clock hidden in the walls which is ticking off the minutes until doomsday.

**The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story** *Mary Downing Hahn*
Tired of the rules that have bound them ever since "the bad thing happened," twelve-year-old Diana ignores her brother’s warnings and befriends the daughter of the new caretaker. She sets in motion events that lead to the release of the spirit of an evil, crazy woman who once ruled the old Willis place.

**The London Eye Mystery** *Siobhan Dowd*
When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye Ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together. Ted, with his brain that is "wired differently," and impatient Kat try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.

**Murder on the Orient Express** *Agatha Christie*
A Russian princess, a Hungarian count, a Swedish beauty, and an assortment of Americans, English, and French are brought together on the elegant Orient Express. A brutal murder and an unexpected blizzard bring in the vacationing detective Hercule Poirot.

**One of Us is Lying** *Karen M. McManus*
When a classmate suddenly dies in detention, the four students who were with him are suddenly suspects. Each has a secret that was about to be revealed. Who is the murderer?

**Three Times Lucky** *Sheila Turnage*
Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder.
Non-Fiction

Spooked! How a Radio Broadcast and the War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America  
*Gail Jarrow*  
On the night of October 30, 1938, thousands of Americans panicked when they believed that Martians had invaded Earth. This book provides an in-depth look at H.G. Wells’ War of the Worlds radio broadcast from that night, the aftermath of the broadcast, and the repercussions of “fake news” today.

Bomb: The Race to Steal and Build the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon  
*Steve Sheinken*  
Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

Terrible Typhoid Mary  
*Gail Jarrow*  
Provides a look at Mary Mallon, also known as Typhoid Mary, who is thought to have caused the spread of typhoid fever, a disease spread by bacteria in food and water, in New York in 1909.

Unbroken: Young Reader’s Edition  
*Laura Hillenbrand*  
The story of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini, who underwent a horrific ordeal when his plane was shot down over the Pacific Ocean and his crew was captured by the Japanese.

Very Very Very Dreadful: The Influenza Pandemic of 1918  
*Albert Marrin*  
This is not the first time the world has seen a pandemic. In 1918, influenza killed millions of people worldwide in less than two years. This book discusses the science behind the virus, the history of the time, and how it impacted our world.

Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team that Changed a Town  
*Warren St. John*  
When Luma Mufleh, a young Jordanian woman, drove through a small town in Georgia one day, she saw tons of refugee boys playing soccer. She decided to quit her job, move to Georgia, and start a soccer team for these boys. They faced down incredible challenges and changed the entire community.

Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert  
*Marc Aronson*  
In August 2010, 33 miners were left trapped when the mine they were working in collapsed. The world watched as these men were rescued after spending sixty-nine days underground with little resources and almost no air. This is the story of their survival, and the work that went into getting them out of the mine.

Game on! Video Game History from Pong and Pac-Man to Mario, Minecraft and More  
*Dustin Hansen*  
If you are interested in video games, this is the book for you! Take a look back at the incredible evolution of video games, including Donkey Kong, Legend of Zelda, Madden Football, The Sims and more! Discover the inspiration behind the games and their iconic characters.
Realistic Fiction

The Running Dream Wendelin Van Draanen
When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

The Red Pencil Andrea Davis Pinkney
When Amira’s village in Sudan is raided, she is forced to flee with her family to a refugee camp. The journey to the camp and life within the camp are incredibly difficult for everyone, but when Amira is given a red pencil one day, she sees a whole new world of possibilities.

Lost in the Sun Lisa Graff
Trent is consumed with guilt from accidentally caused the death of a boy during a hockey game. A new friend helps him move on.

Dear Martin Nic Stone
Justyce McAllister is well on his way to an Ivy Leage college. But when he becomes the victim of racial profiling, he must confront the injustice and seeks wisdom from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Other Words for Home Jasmine Warga
Jude and her mother are fleeing war-torn Syria for the safety of America. Jude must find the strength to adapt to this new way of life, even though she has left everything she knows behind.

The Thing About Jellyfish Ali Benjamin
When Suzy’s ex-best friend drowns over the summer, Suzy is convinced that it was because she was stung by a jellyfish. As Suzy attempts to prove this, she looks back over the girls’ friendship and how it changed over time.

The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl Stacey McAnulty
Lucy Callahan was struck by lightning when she was 7 and is now a mathematical genius. Forced to attend middle school to work on her friendship skills, Lucy discovers there’s more to life than equations and formulas.

Ghost Boys Jewell Parker Rhodes
Twelve-year-old Jerome was playing with a toy gun when a police officer shot him. Now Jerome is dead. The only one who can see him is the daughter of the officer who shot him, and they both watch as their families are torn apart because of the tragedy.

Summer of a Thousand Pies Margaret Dilloway
Cady Bennett has lived on the streets with her father for a long time. But when he is suddenly taken away, she is sent to live with her aunt. As Cady adjusts to living in the house where her mother grew up and working in her aunt’s pie shop, she begins to realize that not everything in this new life is as it seems.

Slacker Gordon Korman
Cameron enjoys lounging around, playing video games and avoiding his homework. But when he almost lets his house burn down, he starts a club at school to make it look like he and his friends are doing good deeds. But some of the club members actually want to do a good deed, and Cameron gets wrapped up in a mission to save a beaver named Elvis from going extinct.
**Science Fiction**

**Aurora Rising** *Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff*

The night before graduating from the Academy, Tyler Jones receives a distress call that leads him to a ship that has been lost in space for over 200 years. He also finds Aurora, who has been cryogenically frozen on the ship the whole time. It will be up to Tyler and a group of misfits from the academy to help this girl, especially since she might be the key to stopping a war millions of years in the making.

**Warcross** *Marie Lu*

When teenage coder Emika Chen hacks her way into the opening tournament of the Warcross Championships, she glitches herself into the game as well as a sinister plot with major consequences for the entire Warcross empire.

**The Fourteenth Goldfish** *Jennifer L. Holm*

Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging, and consequently has turned into a teenager—which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.

**Life As We Knew It** *Susan Beth Pfeffer*

Sixteen-year-old Miranda and her family struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

**Shatter Me** *Tahereh Mafi*

In a world falling apart, Juliette can kill a human just by touching them, and doing so has gotten her locked away by The Reestablishment. But now they want to use her as a weapon. Juliette must make a choice and decide who she truly wants to be.

**The Six** *Mark Alpert*

Adam, who has muscular dystrophy, and five other terminally ill teenagers sacrifice their bodies and upload their minds into weaponized robots to battle a dangerously advanced artificial intelligence program bent on destroying humanity.

**Dry** *Neal Shusterman*

When California's drought causes the taps to go "dry," Alyssa must find a way to help her family survive and find water. But when her parents leave to get water one day and don't come back, it is up to Alyssa to decide whether they should stay where they are or seek help elsewhere.

**Scythe** *Neal Shusterman*

In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be randomly killed or 'gleaned' by professional reapers known as scythes. Two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe—a position neither of them wants.

**We're Not From Here** *Geoff Rodkey*

Imagine being the new kid in an alien school! When Earth becomes uninhabitable, humans are offered a chance to become refugees on Planet Choom. But once they arrive, issues arise as the Zhuri, an alien race that lives on that planet, has decided that the human refugees are too dangerous. Lan’s family has offered to move into an alien community to prove that they come in peace. But can Lan use their comedic genius to truly befriend these aliens?
Sports

**Crash** *Jerry Spinelli*
“Crash” Coogan is a 7th grade football star who also happens to be a horrible bully. He constantly torments his neighbor, Penn Webb. But when things start to go wrong for Crash, he must reassess his actions and turn his life around.

**Ghost** *Jason Reynolds*
Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.

**The Crossover** *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. The 2015 Newbery Award winner.

**Booked** *Kwame Alexander*
A boy who loves soccer discovers the power of words from a dictionary of weird and wonderful words which his father, a linguistics professor, created and makes him read every day.

**Dairy Queen** *Catherine Murdock*
After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school’s rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

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

**Game Changer** *Tommy Greenwald*
Football player Teddy is in a coma after an incident on the football field at camp. But as his friends and family gather around him in the hospital, one question still lingers – was it truly an accident, or was there something more going on that day?
**Top Ten Books Checked Out by JJMS Students**

1. **The Hunger Games** *Suzanne Collins*
   Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

2. **Divergent** *Veronica Roth*
   In a future Chicago, sixteen-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she discovers that she is an anomaly who does not fit into any one group.

3. **The Fault in Our Stars** *John Green*
   When Hazel Grace Lancaster, a lung cancer patient, is forced to attend a cancer support group, she meets Augustus Waters, a young man who happens to have the same favorite book. Together, they embark on a life-altering trip to Amsterdam to meet the author.

4. **Twilight** *Stephanie Meyer*
   Bella Swan has moved to the tiny town of Forks, Washington, where she is sure nothing ever happens. But then she meets the mysterious Edward Cullen and learns a secret about him that will change her life forever.

5. **Flush** *Carl Hiaasen*
   When Noah’s father is arrested for attempting to sink a casino boat that is polluting their harbor, it is up to Noah and a rag-tag group of allies to finish what his father started. They must prove to everyone that the casino is dumping their waste illegally and rid the town of their problem once and for all.

6. **A Mango-Shaped Space** *Wendy Mass*
   Mia has synesthesia, a condition where she sees colors and figures when she hears sounds. This blending of perceptions can be overwhelming.

7. **Everything, Everything** *Nicola Yoon*
   Maddy, a teen with an immune deficiency disease, must remain inside sanitized spaces. When she and the new boy next door become friends, she dares to go outside.

8. **Inside Out & Back Again** *Thanhha Lai*
   A young girl from Vietnam is forced to flee with her family when war comes to their village. They end up in America, where she struggles to learn a new language and fit in with her classmates.

9. **The Maze Runner** *James Dashner*
   Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.

10. **Code Name Verity** *Elizabeth Wein*
    In 1943, a British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. The pilot and her passenger survive the crash, but one girl is soon captured. As she fights for survival, she tells the story of how the two girls became friends, and how desperately she wants to be able to make it home.