

## **CHS Summer Reading 2024**

*This summer, our students will have a voice in their summer reading. Below is a selection of highly regarded YA books, a brief description of each, and a link to Amazon where they are available in various formats from paperback to audio to Kindle. Students are responsible for choosing and purchasing their own summer reading books.*

*In addition to reading the book, each student will have two summer reading responsibilities. One is to keep a reading log (blanks enclosed, make copies as necessary) to chart progress and summarize after each reading session. The Second will be to choose a reading project from the enclosed list of project choices. Reading Logs and projects will be due on the first day of school.*

### **The Martian by Andy Weir (Classroom Edition)**

After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, astronaut Mark Watney finds himself stranded on Mars and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get the word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills — and a relentless, dogged refusal to quit — he steadfastly confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next. Will his resourcefulness be enough to overcome the impossible odds against him and allow him to get home? [The Martian AMAZON Classroom Edition](#)

### **Dairy Queen by Catherine Gilbert Murdock**

When you don't talk a lot like D.J., there's a lot of stuff that ends up not getting said. Stuff like why her best friend, Amber, isn't so friendly anymore. Or why her little brother, Curtis, never opens his mouth. Why does her mom have two jobs and a big secret? Why her college football star brothers won't even call home? Why her dad would go ballistic if she tried out for the high school football team herself. Welcome to the summer that fifteen-year-old D. J. Schwenk of Red Bend, Wisconsin, learns to talk, and ends up having an awful lot of stuff to say. [Dairy Queen AMAZON](#)

### **The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan**

At first glance, Perseus Jackson seems like a loser but he's really the son of Poseidon and a mortal woman. As he discovers his heritage, he learns that the gods are about to go to war over a lost thunderbolt, so Percy and sidekicks Grover (a young satyr) and Annabeth (daughter of Athena) set out to retrieve it. Many close calls and monster attacks later, they enter Hades's realm (via L.A.). [The Lightning Thief AMAZON](#)

### **Truly Devious by Maureen Johnson**

Ellingham Academy is a famous private school in Vermont for the brightest thinkers, inventors, and artists. Shortly after the school opened, its founder Albert Ellingham's wife and daughter were kidnapped. The only real clue was a mocking riddle listing methods of murder, signed with the frightening pseudonym "Truly, Devious." It became one of the great unsolved crimes of American history. True crime aficionado Stevie Bell is set to begin her first year at Ellingham Academy, and she has an ambitious plan: She will solve this cold case. [Truly Devious AMAZON](#)

### **Good Girls Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson**

Pretty and popular high school senior Andie Bell was murdered by her boyfriend, Sal Singh, who then killed himself. It was all anyone could talk about. And five years later, Pip sees how the tragedy still haunts her town. But she can't shake the feeling that there was more to what happened that day. She knew Sal when she was a child, and

he was always so kind to her. How could he possibly have been a killer? Now a senior herself, Pip decides to reexamine the closed case for her final project, at first just to cast doubt on the original investigation. But soon she discovers a trail of dark secrets that might actually prove Sal innocent . . . and the line between past and present begins to blur. Someone in Fairview doesn't want Pip digging around for answers, and now her own life might be in danger. [A Good Girls Guide to Murder AMAZON](#)

**Have You Seen Luis Velez? By Catherine Ryan Hyde**

Raymond Jaffe has always felt like an outcast. After his best friend moves away, Raymond has only two real friends, a feral cat he's tamed and a blind ninety-two-year-old woman in his building who's introduced herself with a curious question. "Have you seen Luis Velez?"

Mildred Gutermann, a German Jew who narrowly escaped the Holocaust, has been alone since her caretaker disappeared. She turns to Raymond for help, and as he tries to track Luis down, a deep and unexpected friendship blossoms between the two. Despondent at the loss of Luis, Mildred isolates herself further from the neighborhood, devolving into bigotry and fear. Determined not to let her give up, Raymond helps her see that for every terrible act the world delivers, there is a mirror image of deep kindness, and Mildred helps Raymond see that there's hope if you have someone to hold on to. [Have You Seen Luis Velez AMAZON](#)

**The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic—and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World by Steven Johnson**

*The Ghost Map* is a riveting page-turner about a real-life historical hero, Dr. John Snow. It's the summer of 1854, and London is just emerging as one of the first modern cities in the world. But lacking the infrastructure—garbage removal, clean water, sewers—necessary to support its rapidly expanding population, the city has become the perfect breeding ground for a terrifying disease no one knows how to cure. As the cholera outbreak takes hold, a physician and a local curate are spurred to action—and ultimately solve the most pressing medical riddle of their time.

[The Ghost Map AMAZON](#)

## **CHS Summer Project OPTIONS**

*In addition to keeping your summer reading log, you have a few choices for your summer reading project. Choose one and use your creativity to create something amazing! All projects are due on the first day of school.*

**Book vs. The Movie:** Watching a movie after reading the book is a wonderful way to reflect on what you have read and compare the original source with what Hollywood thinks works better on the big screen. Write a 1-2 page comparison and make sure to include:

- **BOOK STORYLINES:** What parts were in the book but were not in the movie? Why do you think the people who made the movie left out those parts?
- **MOVIE STORYLINES:** Were there any parts that were in the movie that were NOT in the book? Why do you think the people who made the movie ADDED those parts?
- **CHARACTERS:** Did they leave out any characters from the book or add any new ones in the Movie? If so, why do you think they were dropped or added and did it work?
- **MOVIE REVIEW:** Do you think the people who made the movie did a good job of adapting the book? Why or why not?
- **BOOK OR MOVIE:** Which did you enjoy more, the book or the movie, and why?

**Badger Times Book Review:** Let the world know what you thought of the book and whether it made your MUST READ list for Summer 2023. Your Book Review needs to include:

- **TALK ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Give some background on the author that you find interesting.
- **BOOK COVER:** Describe it and share what it conveys about the book
- **CHARACTERS:** Who were the main characters and what did they do/what challenges they faced? Who was your favorite and why?
- **EVALUATE:** Share your favorite parts of the book and why. What was your least favorite part and why?
- **RECOMMEND:** Who would like this book? Did you like this book and would recommend it?

**Create a Graphic Novel:** Turn the novel into a comic book. Provide colorful illustrations, dialogue, and narration. Your comic book must include at least 20 panels (no more than four per page; but two might be best to fit pictures and dialogue - through bubbles or narration) that should summarize the main events of the story. This may be hand-drawn or created online.

**Alternate Ending:** An alternate ending is an ending that is different than what the author wrote. You are changing how the novel actually ended. Start by writing a brief summary of the original ending. Then create an alternate ending to the novel that stays true to the story but provides your own take on a potential change of outcome. Could be a 2-3 page, typed, double-spaced paper.

**Movie trailer:** Create a movie trailer for the book you just read, there needs to be a script for this movie trailer. You will need to write a movie trailer script that highlights the key moments that are accurate to the book. The script should be spell and Grammarly checked. The trailer should be 2-4 minutes long, no more no less. In addition to the script, you will be graded on high quality and final editing of your video.



**THE  
CRAIG  
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**HIGH SCHOOL CHS Summer Reading Log/Summaries**

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Book Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

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