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**Honors:** Each student must read *Hour of the Bees* by Lindsay Eager during the summer keeping and active reading log. The reading log will be checked and will count as a classwork grade. In addition, students must select ONE additional book from the summer reading list for outside reading. All students must be prepared to complete an activity related to the second book during the first month of their scheduled English class. Specific due dates for this assessment will be determined by the teacher.

**College Prep 1:** Each student must select ONE book to read during the summer. Students with English during the fall semester will complete a project-based assessment during Term 1. Students with English during the spring semester will complete a project-based assessment during Term 3. Specific due dates for this assessment will be determined by the teacher.

**College Prep 2:** Each student will participate in a guided silent sustained reading of *Pigman* by Paul Zindel during class. All students are encouraged to read for pleasure over the summer.

# ***Tigers are Ferrrrrrrocious Readers!***

## ***What will You read this summer?***

### **Recommended Summer Reading List 2020-2021 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Taunton High School strongly encourages all students to read widely throughout the school year and especially over the summer months. Students can avoid the "summer slide" - where skills can slip as much as one grade level in just a few short weeks - by reading something every day. We encourage students to visit a local library or find interesting articles or stories on-line. Summer reading systematically increases vocabulary, reading stamina, and knowledge.

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

~ Dr. Seuss ~

### **Required Reading Expectations**

**English 8 Honors:** *Hour of the Bees* by Lindsay Eager and ONE book from the list to be read over the summer.

**English 8 CP1:** ONE book from the list read over the summer.

**English 8 CP2:** Guided reading of the *Pigman* by Paul Zindel in class during the semester scheduled for English.

*Please note: Although the books on our reading list have been carefully selected by the THS English Department, every family is unique and holds different values. Please read the summaries provided to make an informed choice that is best for your child.*

**Alexander, Kwame*****The Crossover***

Josh Bell and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious novel of family and brotherhood.

**Bruchac, Joseph*****Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two***

Six-year-old Ned Begay leaves his Navajo home for boarding school, where he learns the English language and American ways. At 16, he enlists in the U.S. Marines during World War II and is trained as a code talker, using his native language to radio battlefield information and commands in a code that was kept secret until 1969.

**Clements, Andrew*****Things Not Seen***

Teens, especially those not in the über-popular set, know all about feeling invisible. But what would happen if you actually did wake up invisible one day? Fifteen-year-old Bobby is faced with this curious predicament and is trying to adapt.

**Deuker, Carl*****Gutless***

With both good speed and good hands, wide receiver Brock Ripley should be a natural for the varsity team, but he shies away from physical contact. When he gets cut from varsity, he also loses his friendship with star quarterback Hunter Gates who begins lashing out at not only Brock, but also Brock's friend.

**Eagar, Lindsay*****Hour of the Bees***

At first, twelve-year-old Carol is not happy to be spending the summer helping her parents move her grandfather to an assisted living home, but as the summer wears on, she finds herself drawn to him, fascinated by his amazing stories.

**Gratz, Alan*****Refugee***

Josef is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers -- from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of *tomorrow*. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end.

**Horowitz, Anthony*****Stormbreaker***

Readers will cheer for Alex Rider, the 14-year-old hero of British author Horowitz's spy thriller. When his guardian and uncle, Ian, is mysteriously killed, Alex discovers that his uncle was not the bank vice-president he purported to be, but rather a spy for the British government. Now the government wants Alex to take over his uncle's mission.

**Mullally Hunt, Lynda*****Fish in a Tree***

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. Her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of.

**Reynolds, Jason*****Long Way Down***

And so it goes, the whole long way down, as the elevator stops on each floor letting someone connected to his brother get on, Will receives a piece to a bigger story than the one he thinks he knows. A story that might never know an END...if Will gets *off*. Told in short, fierce staccato narrative verse, *Long Way Down* is a fast and furious, dazzlingly brilliant look at teenage gun violence, as could only be told by Jason Reynolds.

**Paulsen, Gary & Jim Paulsen*****Road Trip***

Fourteen-year-old Ben is awakened by his dad who suddenly wants to go on a road trip to rescue a border collie from a shelter. After the pair and their dog, Atticus, hit the road, Ben's dad makes an announcement that will change their lives. Upset, Ben invites Theo, a tough older friend who his dad thinks is a bad influence. Adventure bounds!

**Watson, Renee*****Piecing Me Together***

Jade believes she must get out of her poor neighborhood and Jade has taken advantage of every opportunity that comes her way. Jade is tired of being singled out as someone who needs help, someone people want to fix. Jade wants to speak, to create, to express her joys and sorrows, her pain and her hope. Maybe there are some things she could show other women about understanding the world and finding ways to be real, to make a difference.

**Woodson, Jacqueline*****Brown Girl Dreaming***

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.

*All editorial reviews of books can be found at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).*



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