



# the BENJAMIN school

## 2010 Summer Reading List for Students Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Required:

**A Night to Remember** by Walter Lord

**Inherit the Wind** by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

### Choose two of the following:

**The Percy Jackson Series:** The gods of Olympus are alive and well in the 21st Century! They still fall in love with mortals and have children who are half-god, half-human, like the heroes of the old Greek myths. Could you be one of those children? Join the adventures of Percy Jackson and his modern demigod friends as they fight mythological monsters and the forces of the titan lord Kronos.

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

The Sea of Monsters by Rick Riordan

The Battle of the Labyrinth by Rick Riordan

The Titan's Curse by Rick Riordan

The Pig Scrolls by Paul Shipton the story of an erstwhile pig who must become a hero in ancient Greece.

Heir Apparent by Vivian Vande Velde, a science fiction/fantasy novel about Giannine Bellisario, who becomes trapped inside a looping virtual reality role playing game.

The Light in the Forest by Conrad Richter, about the struggles of a White boy, John Butler, taken as a boy from his parents in Pennsylvania by the Lenni LenapeIndians.

The Fellowship of the Ring and The Two Towers by J.R.R. Tolkien. Myths and legends of Middle Earth based on Anglo Saxon England where indomitable spirit and unusual courage overcome potent evil. Hobbits, elves, and men combine to restore good in an earth threatened.

The Giver by Lois Lowry. The novel follows a boy named Jonas through the twelfth year of his life. The society has eliminated pain and strife by converting to "Sameness", a plan which has also eradicated emotional depth from their lives. Jonas is selected to inherit the position of "Receiver of Memory," the person who stores all the memories of the time before Sameness, in case they are ever needed to aid in decisions that others lack the experience to make. As Jonas receives the memories from the previous receiver—the "Giver"—he discovers how shallow his community's life has become.

The Right Stuff by Tom Wolfe. Men first flew into space in 1961, but until *The Right Stuff* was first published in 1979 few people had a sense of the most engrossing side of that adventure: namely, the perceptions and goals of the astronauts themselves, aloft and during certain remarkable odysseys on earth.

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton. The themes of the book, such as friendship, and coming of age, are portrayed by following two rival groups, the Greasers and the Socs (pronounced "soashes" by the author, short for *Socials*), who are separated by their social economic status.

The Call of the Wild by Jack London, The plot concerns a previously domesticated and even somewhat pampered dog named Buck, whose primordial instincts return after a series of events finds him serving as a sled dog in the treacherous, frigid Yukon during the days of the 19th century Klondike Gold Rushes in which sled dogs were bought at generous prices.

Sounder by William H. Armstrong, the story of an African American boy living with his share cropper family in Depression-era Louisiana. Although the family's difficulties increase when the father is imprisoned for stealing pig meat and chicken, the boy still hungers for an education.

Nobody's Princess by Esther Friesner, an engaging story which imagines what Helen of Troy's teenage years were like.

The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer, a science fiction novel about a young clone who is being raised to provide spare organs for the powerful drug lord known as "El Patrón". The story is set in the near future