

Dear Students and Parents,

The English Department at Sturgis has updated its summer reading list to get our students excited about reading and to provide a starting point for the curriculum in the fall. Works were chosen for their global perspectives, their literary merit, their thematic relevance, their interest level, and their fit with our IB curriculum.

Our primary goals are for students to read and enjoy literature and to begin the school year with a common experience for discussion. Therefore, it is important that students in grades 9-11 complete the required book from the list provided. Students entering grade 12 do not have a summer reading requirement due to the expectation that they will be working on extended essays and CAS requirements over the summer.

During the first two weeks of school in the fall, students will be assessed on the books read. Each required book may be assessed through a test, an in-class essay, or an oral presentation. Additionally, it is recommended that students keep up a reading journal. Students might record quotations of interest or significance and personal response to them or make notes on plot, characterization, technique, structure, and meaning.

In the spirit of intellectual and academic pursuit, it is expected that students will not use reading aids such as *Spark Notes* and that any outside sources, including movies, that are consulted will be acknowledged in reading journals.

Enjoy the summer and enjoy your reading!

**Sturgis Charter Public School
SUMMER READING LIST 2017**

Ninth Grade

All entering freshmen will read *The Other Side of the Sky: A Memoir* by **Farah Ahmed**, a work about the author's growing up in war-torn Afghanistan and making her way to the United States.

Tenth Grade

All entering sophomores will read *In the Shadow of the Banyan* by **Vaddey Ratner**, a story from a young girl's point of view about the Khmer Rouge's takeover of Cambodia in the 1970's.

Eleventh Grade

All entering juniors will read *The Kite Runner* by **Khaled Hosseini**, which is the "unforgettable, heartbreaking story of the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant" that is "set in a country that is in the process of being destroyed."