



OAK GROVE SCHOOL  
The Art of Living and Learning

# Summer Reading

2020-2021

**GRADES 6-8**

**GRADES 9-11**

**GRADE 12**

**PARENTS**



## Incoming Grade 6

6th graders are to continue reading at least 5 days out of the week throughout the summer, and challenge themselves to read at least three chapter books they have never read before.

## Incoming Grades 7-8

All 7th and 8th grade students are to read at least one novel of their choosing this summer. Many of the students will be doing this already, and that is great! This is not meant to be in addition to summer reading that self-motivated readers do, but as a suggestion for students who are reluctant to choose a book themselves.

Please read a book by an author from a **different country than the USA**, as our historical focus will be World History. Here are some suggestions but please use your own discretion when reviewing books!

Suggested titles: [GoodReads](#)

Be ready to do a book talk on your novel when you return to school in the fall.

# 6-8



# Summer Reading & College Counseling Tasks High School • 2020-2021

## Incoming 9th and 10th graders:

Read the following two books over the summer:

- The Odyssey; the recommended version is this [graphic novel by Gareth Hinds](#)
- Grimm's Fairy Tales; the recommended version is [this one with with illustrations by Arthur Rakham](#)

## Incoming 11th graders:

Read the following two books over the summer:

- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou (This has mature content; speak to Ashton if you would like to request a different book)

## 9th - 11th Grade College Counseling:

[Watch this video first](#)

Make up credits if you need to at summer school/online (any grade lower than a C-). Do something productive, constructive, and fabulous with your time – participate in meaningful community service opportunities, develop a talent, explore the world (perhaps only virtually this summer), work at a part-time job, take some supplemental classes that Oak Grove doesn't offer. Document your experiences through writing and photos. Get official verification for any summer community service work that you do where possible. Consider this 4-week "[Uncommon Summer](#)" course for self-directed students wanting to launch a project.

# 9-11



# Summer Reading & College Counseling Tasks High School • 2020-2021

## Incoming 12th graders:

Read these two books:

- Born a Crime by Trevor Noah
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

Write polished, ready-to-submit drafts of two Common App essays and five UC personal insight questions. These prompts can be found in the College Counseling Handbook. Communicate early with Jennifer and/or Ashton about alternate essay plans if you know you are absolutely **not** applying to any UC schools or absolutely **are** applying to a school with its own essay(s). You will turn these in as your first assignments for English 4.

## Incoming 12th Grade College Counseling Summer Tasks:

[Watch this video first](#)

1. Make up credits if you need to at summer school or online (any grade lower than a C-). Russ or Jennifer can help you find an appropriate online course if you need any assistance.
2. Review the [Oak Grove College Counseling Handbook](#) and [various college resources](#) on Oak Grove's web site.
3. Complete your brag sheet and your list of extracurricular activities, including the portions to format them for UC applications and the Common App.
4. Finalize the list of schools you will be applying to. Be sure your list has a reasonable balance of safety, target, and reach schools.
5. Consider virtual visits to colleges on your list. Reach out directly to admissions officers with your specific questions.
6. Decide if you are applying Early Decision and/or Early Action anywhere.
7. Find out if your school choices will require the SAT or ACT as well as any SAT Subject Tests, and if so, which tests they require or suggest. Prepare for these over the summer if you need to.
8. If taking the SAT: Registration [information here](#). If taking the ACT: Registration information [here](#).
9. Consider this 4-week "[Uncommon Summer](#)" course for self-directed students wanting to launch a project.
10. Communicate! Let your parents and Jennifer know your plans, questions, etc. as they develop. Everything will go smoothly if there is clear communication all around.

# 12



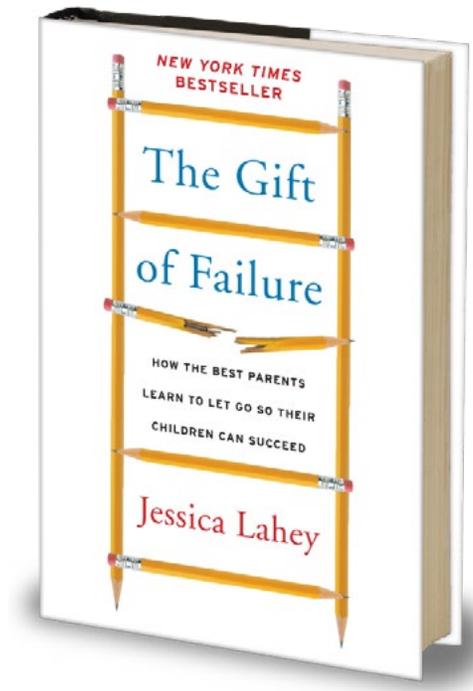
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## Summer Read Parents

### The summer read for parents and staff

Each year we choose a book to read as a community. This summer, our book of choice is **The Gift of Failure** by Jessica Lahey.

Learn more about the [book here](#).



# PARENTS