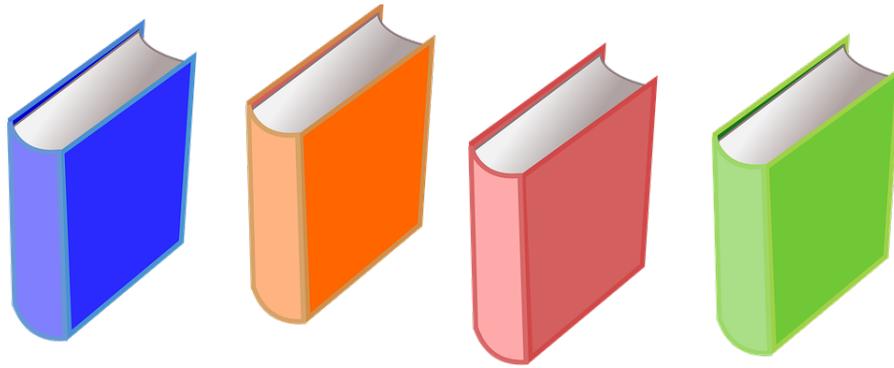


Upper School Summer Reading



June 15, 2017

Dear Parents,

The upper school's book club format has been quite popular and successful over the past few years; therefore, we are continuing the format this year. Our summer books were selected by some of our upper school students, and each of these students will lead a book discussion in the fall. All of the books that were chosen contain an interesting theme that highlights an important social issue.

Upper school students will each choose *one* of the books listed in this packet. To ensure that your child will be able to fully participate in a book discussion, he or she will also fill out a reading log that will be submitted on September 12, 2017. The instructions for the logs are also located in this packet.

We are very excited about our summer reading program, and we are looking forward to some excellent discussions in the fall.

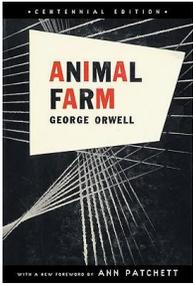
Sincerely,

Liz McGowen

Liz McGowen
Upper School Team Leader

***Animal Farm* by George Orwell**

Discussion to be led by Evan Beckius

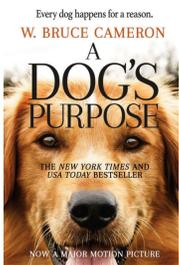


Animal Farm is the most famous by far of all twentieth-century political allegories. Its account of a group of barnyard animals who revolt against their vicious human master, only to submit to a tyranny erected by their own kind, can fairly be said to have become a universal drama. Orwell is one of the very few modern satirists comparable to Jonathan Swift in power, artistry, and moral authority; in *Animal Farm* his spare prose and the logic of his dark comedy brilliantly highlight his stark message.

Taking as his starting point the betrayed promise of the Russian Revolution, Orwell lays out a vision that, in its bitter wisdom, gives us the clearest understanding we possess of the possible consequences of our social and political acts.

***A Dog's Purpose: A Novel for Humans* by W. Bruce Cameron**

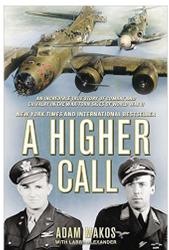
Discussion led by Matt Kasopsky



Heartwarming, insightful, and often laugh-out-loud funny, *A Dog's Purpose* is not only the emotional and hilarious story of a dog's many lives, but also a dog's-eye commentary on human relationships and the unbreakable bonds between man and man's best friend. This moving and beautifully crafted story teaches us that love never dies, that our true friends are always with us, and that every creature on earth is born with a purpose.

***A Higher Call: An Incredible True Story of Combat and Chivalry in the War-Torn Skies of World War II* by Adam Makos**

Discussion led by Matt Wisecarver



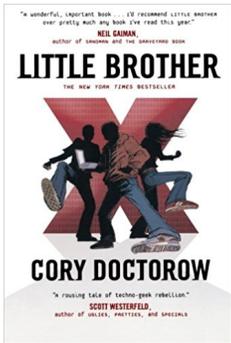
December, 1943: A badly damaged American bomber struggles to fly over wartime Germany. At the controls is twenty-one-year-old Second Lieutenant Charlie Brown. Half his crew lay wounded or dead on this, their first mission. Suddenly, a Messerschmitt fighter pulls up on the bomber's tail. The pilot is German ace Franz Stigler—and he can destroy the young American crew with the squeeze of a trigger...

What happened next would defy imagination and later be called “the most incredible encounter between enemies in World War II.”

The U.S. 8th Air Force would later classify what happened between them as “top secret.” It was an act that Franz could never mention for fear of facing a firing squad. It was the encounter that would haunt both Charlie and Franz for forty years until, as old men, they would search the world for each other, a last mission that could change their lives forever.

Little Brother by Cory Doctorow

Discussion led by Katie Bradley



Marcus, a.k.a "w1n5t0n," is only seventeen years old, but he figures he already knows how the system works—and how to work the system. Smart, fast, and wise to the ways of the networked world, he has no trouble outwitting his high school's intrusive but clumsy surveillance systems.

But his whole world changes when he and his friends find themselves caught in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco. In the wrong place at the wrong time, Marcus and his crew are apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security and whisked away to a secret prison where they're mercilessly interrogated for days.

When the DHS finally releases them, Marcus discovers that his city has become a police state where every citizen is treated like a potential terrorist. He knows that no one will believe his story, which leaves him only one option: to take down the DHS himself.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

Discussion to be led by Jack Buell



It's the year 2044, and the real world is an ugly place.

Like most of humanity, Wade Watts escapes his grim surroundings by spending his waking hours jacked into the OASIS, a sprawling virtual utopia that lets you be anything you want to be, a place where you can live and play and fall in love on any of ten thousand planets.

And like most of humanity, Wade dreams of being the one to discover the ultimate lottery ticket that lies concealed within this virtual world. For somewhere inside this giant networked playground, OASIS creator James Halliday has hidden a series of fiendish puzzles that will yield massive fortune--and remarkable power--to whoever can unlock them.

For years, millions have struggled fruitlessly to attain this prize, knowing only that Halliday's riddles are based in the pop culture he loved--that of the late twentieth century. And for years, millions have found in this quest another means of escape, retreating into happy, obsessive study of Halliday's icons. Like many of his contemporaries, Wade is as comfortable debating the finer points of John Hughes's oeuvre, playing Pac-Man, or reciting Devo lyrics as he is scrounging power to run his OASIS rig.

And then Wade stumbles upon the first puzzle.

Suddenly the whole world is watching, and thousands of competitors join the hunt--among them certain powerful players who are willing to commit very real murder to beat Wade to this prize. Now the only way for Wade to survive and preserve everything he knows is to win. But to do so, he may have to leave behind his oh-so-perfect virtual existence and face up to life--and love--in the real world he's always been so desperate to escape.

What Wakes You Up?: Designing Kick-Ass Lives Through Entrepreneurship. By Justin Lafazan

Discussion led by Ryan Wellock



When you woke up this morning, were you excited about your day, or excited about getting back into bed? *81% of Americans choose the latter.*

But it doesn't have to be that way.

What if things were different? What if, in essence, life were better than snooze?

Learn how to:

- *Discover the intersection of what you're good at, what you care about, what you're passionate about, and what makes money
- *Leverage the SPARK methodology to achieve the level of success you desire.
- *Design your 'Average Perfect Day' and take the steps to live it.

Featured in Forbes, USA Today, Inc. Magazine, and the Huffington Post, Justin Lafazan is an acclaimed entrepreneur, speaker, consultant, and author. He's on a mission to inspire the world's young people to design the lives they want to live, through entrepreneurship.

Summaries and photos are courtesy of Amazon

Upper School Summer Book Reading Log (page 1)

Please fill out the log below as you read your summer book. You may write directly on these sheets or you may download this sheet from the school website and type directly on it. Your book is split into four sections, and you should fill in a row of the log after every section. Specifically, after you read each of your sections, write a four to five sentence summary of what occurred in that section of the book. Also write a brief reaction, (about three sentences), to the events of each section.

Section <i>(Circle and use the guidelines for your book)</i>	Summary <i>(4-5 sentences)</i>	Reaction <i>(Write 3 sentences that discuss your feelings about what happened in this section)</i>
<i>Animal Farm (Ch. 1-2)</i> <i>A Dog's Purpose (Ch. 1-7)</i> <i>A Higher Call (Ch. 1-6)</i> <i>Little Brother (Ch. 1-5)</i> <i>Ready Player One (Ch. 1-10)</i> <i>What Wakes You Up (Intro. – Our Differences Define Us)</i>		
<i>Animal Farm (Ch. 3-5)</i> <i>A Dog's Purpose (Ch. 8-15)</i> <i>A Higher Call (Ch. 7-12)</i> <i>Little Brother (Ch. 6-10)</i> <i>Ready Player One (Ch. 11-19)</i> <i>What Wakes You Up (Why is It Nec. to Think Differently-Ready, Set, Commit)</i>		

Upper School Summer Book Reading Log (Page 2)

	Summary <i>(4-5sentences)</i>	Reaction <i>(Write 3 sentences that discuss your feelings about what happened in this section)</i>
<i>Animal Farm (Ch.6-8)</i> <i>A Dog's Purpose (Ch. 16-22)</i> <i>A Higher Call (Ch. 13-19)</i> <i>Little Brother (Ch. 11-15)</i> <i>Ready Player One (Ch. 20-29)</i> <i>What Wakes You Up (S-P)</i>		
<i>Animal Farm (Ch. 9-end)</i> <i>A Dog's Purpose (Ch. 23-end)</i> <i>A Higher Call (Ch. 20-end)</i> <i>Little Brother (Ch. 16-end)</i> <i>Ready Player One (Ch. 30-end)</i> <i>What Wakes You Up (A-K)</i>		