



Dear Middle School Franklin Families,

We are pleased to announce that Franklin Academy students in grades 6-8, will participate in a yearlong reading incentive based on the Sunshine State Young Reader's Award. These books are selected by librarians and teachers from around the state of Florida. The Sunshine State Youth Reader's Award Program's (SSYRA) primary purpose is to foster each student's appreciation of quality literature, hopefully leading him or her to discover that reading is an enjoyable and rewarding activity. We are recommending all students read 2-3 books over the summer to prevent the summer slide. "The Summer Slide" is what happens when skills learned throughout the school year are lost or diminished during the summer break. It is vital that all students practice their reading skills during the summer months.

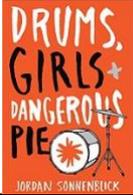
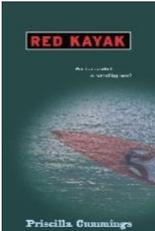
To help prevent our Franklin Scholars from doing too much sliding this summer and to prepare them for a first marking period project, we've compiled some tips and resources for parents. A selection of books for each grade has been carefully put together by your child's Teaching Team; these titles have all been chosen by using the upcoming curriculum as a guide. Additionally, we have included some optional reading guides for note taking. All of these contribute to the student's overall ability to think critically, to write creatively and to make valuable intellectual connections. Upon returning to school in August, students will continue their book study with differentiated assignments within their ELA courses.

Our students are looking forward to reading a few of these titles. They have been introduced to the books during their ELA class! Teachers have shared the recommended summer book to help them get a head start this fall. We can't wait to see what other books will be read and shared when we get back in August! If you should have questions, ideas, or concerns, please email me at: young.katherine@franklin-academy.org.

Happy Reading,

Mrs. Young

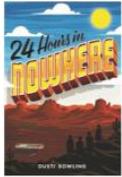
Reading Specialist

Required For Upcoming School Year	
<i>Upon returning to school, students will discuss and analyze literary elements and complete a book project. Middle school students are required read the book for their rising grade level so they are prepared for literary discussions and projects in August.</i>	
Grade	Book Title and Author
Rising 6 th Graders	<u>The Lightning Thief</u> By: Rick Riordan 
Rising 7 th Graders	<u>Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pies</u> By: Jordan Sonnenblick 
Rising 8 th Graders	<u>Red Kayak</u> By: Priscilla Cummings 

Please use double sided notes to help you recall and organize your thinking. Your notes may be typed or handwritten neatly on lined paper. These notes are due on Friday, August 16th 2019 to your ELA teacher.

Character	Identify main characters in the text. Use textual evidence to analyze their traits and qualities.
Setting	Identify one of the main settings in the text. Argue whether or not this is an ideal setting. Provide textual evidence that supports your thinking using quotes.
Conflict	Identify the main conflict (internal and/or external) of the book. Decide whether it is man vs. man, man vs. society, man vs. nature, or man vs. self. Explain how the conflict is or is not resolved in the story and how it impacts the characters. Cite textual evidence by directly quoting the text using quotation marks and page numbers.
Theme	Identify a theme in the novel and textual evidence that supports the theme by directly quoting the text using quotation marks and page numbers. Explain how the textual evidence supports the theme you identified.

SSYRA Grades 6-8



24 Hours in Nowhere by Dusti Bowling

Gus hopes in just a short twenty-four hours, he can explore and escape the abandoned mine in his home of Nowhere, Arizona. He just has to find the rumored gold, win back a dirt bike from a thirteen-year-old bully, and try not to die from dehydration, cave-ins, and wild animal attacks. But man can't survive on Twinkies alone. A life-threatening adventure such as this requires the companionship of the dirt bike-riding new girl in town and Gus's two former friends. Throughout the day and night, the group of outsiders learn that they have more things in common than they realized, and it's their newly formed bond that will be the key to their survival. Bikes might get damaged and bones might get broken, but their newly formed friendships will thrive in this desert town.



The Adventurers Guild by Zack Loran Clark

Zed Kagari and Brock Dunderfel are preparing for the Guildcullen. The day where children find what path they will take for the rest of their life. Before they can be chosen, they find themselves drafted into the Adventurer's Guild. The guild that travels outside the walls of Freestone, into the wild lands between cities filled with monsters and "Dangers". When the boys uncover that the city might have a traitor, looking to destroy all the city had worked for, they have to work with new allies to save their town and prove their worth.



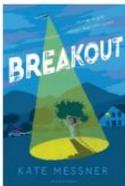
All's Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson

As a squire-in-training, eleven-year-old Impy must demonstrate her bravery to move up in the ranks at the Renaissance Faire where her family works. Though she can wield a sword and handle the threats of dragons, will she survive the challenge that is MIDDLE SCHOOL? Impy will learn how to transition from home-schooled child to a public school student. How will she navigate the school hallways? How will she deal with hard teachers? Will she make friends who accept her for who she is? Impy is about to find out just how brave she can be and which dragons she needs to slay to conquer middle school.



Boy X by Dan Smith

Twelve-year-old Ash wakes up in an unfamiliar room with an IV in his arm, a head full of jumbled memories, and a host of superhuman abilities. He has no idea what he is capable of, but if he is going to save the world, he needs to evolve. With the lead scientists locked in quarantine including his mother, it is up to Ash to track a group of criminals intent on releasing a deadly virus into the world. Unfortunately, a dense jungle full of terrifying creatures is between the biosphere where he is being kept and the getaway boat.



Breakout by Kate Messner

Nora Tucker is looking forward to summer vacation in Wolf Creek--two months of swimming, popsicles, and brushing up on her journalism skills for the school paper. When two inmates break out of the town's maximum security prison, everything changes. Doors that were never locked are locked, helicopters fly over, and the police are on patrol. The worse part is everyone is on edge. The fear has brought out the worst in people Nora has known her whole life. Even if the inmates are caught, she worries that home might never feel the same.



Captain Superlative by J.S. Puller

Janey Silverman doesn't know what to make of the girl in the red mask, blue wig, silver swimsuit, high top sneakers and a cape. She's determined to find out more about the girl who runs through the halls of Deerwood Park Middle School championing good deeds and standing up to bullies. When she tries out her secret identity, she gets more than she bargains for as Captain Superlative's new sidekick. Janey also finds out some secrets about herself and what makes a good hero, and a good friend.



Elephant Secret by Eric Walters

Samantha Gray is known as the "elephant girl" since she lives in an animal sanctuary with eleven elephants and her dad. She finds her elephant family much easier to get along with than most people, including her dad's lawyer girlfriend, Joyce. When a beloved elephant dies giving birth to a newborn, Sam's world is upended. She knew raising a newborn would be a challenge, but something is very different about *this* baby. *Secrets begin to threaten not only the herd's peaceful existence at the sanctuary, but even Sam and her dad's place among the elephants.*



Ethan Marcus Stands Up by Michele Weber Hurwitz

Ethan Marcus isn't usually a rule breaker but one day at school he decides he is fed up with sitting all day. His refusal to sit does not go over well with his teachers and leads to detention.

While in detention it is suggested that Ethan participate in the school's upcoming Invention Day. Ethan's sister and her goody two shoe friends participate every year but Ethan has never had the desire or an invention idea, until now. Will an idea be enough to motivate Ethan to participate at Invention Day?



Greetings from Witness Protection by Jake Burt

Nicki's father is in jail and her grandmother is dead so she's in the foster care system. One day two US Marshalls show up and offer her "the adventure of a lifetime." They need her to help hide a family in witness protection from a very dangerous criminal. Since the criminals are looking for a family of 3, adding a daughter to the family will make it easier to keep them hidden. Adding a street-smart, savvy, kleptomaniac like Nicki may help to keep them alive - unless her past puts them all in danger!



Knockout by K.A. Holt

When Levi discovers his love for boxing, he finds himself in the ring with those who love him most. He knows he's strong enough to fight for his life. But can he convince everyone else to believe in him too? This funny and emotional novel in verse looks at what it means to be a typical kid- and all the many definitions of strength.



Slider by Pete Hautman

David is an average kid with an unusual talent - eating large amounts of food in a small amount of time. It's just something his two best friends, Cyn and Heyman, time him at for fun. That is until he accidentally charges \$2000 on his mom's credit card - then he has to figure out how to use his talent to earn some cash before his mom finds out what he's done! Will David find enough time to train while still keeping an eye on his little brother? Will he be able to handle competing with professional competitive eaters, or will he have to confess to his mother?



Small Spaces by Katherine Arden

"Avoid large places. Keep to small." Seems like sound advice for Ollie to heed as she now finds herself on a stalled bus during the trip to the farm. Armed with a broken wristwatch displaying alarming warnings to her, Ollie and two classmates make the decision to leave their classmates on the bus and venture into the misty fields with only scarecrows around. But scarecrows only scare crows, right?