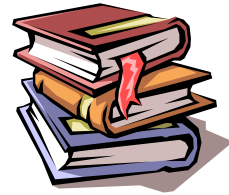


## Seven Rivers Christian School Summer Reading 2011



May 10, 2011

Dear Parents and Students,

Knowing how important reading is to overall academic success, SRCS has designed a Summer Reading Program to engage our students in meaningful and enjoyable reading that strengthens their reading skills and broadens their base of knowledge.

Like any other skill, reading requires practice, and such practice is necessary if students are to increase fluency, expand vocabulary, and deepen comprehension. The books on the Summer Reading list have been chosen because they are time-tested works of literature that have something of lasting significance to offer to those who read them. A love of great books will only be cultivated by *exposure* to great books.

Our Summer Reading Program represents a required reading assignment, and a parent's role in supporting the program is invaluable. Please note the following guidelines of the program:

- Students will read books from the list supplied for the grade level they are entering.
- Books are **not** to be "read" via SparkNotes, Wikipedia, or any other alternative to the real thing.
- The books should be completed before the school year begins.
- Rising 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will read ten books from a list of selections.
- Rising 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be required to read two books. One of the books is an *assigned reading selection* that the entire class will read. If there is a choice, please choose the unabridged version of your assigned reading selection. The other book will be a *student selection* chosen from the list of books for their grade level. An assessment will be required for each selection read, but we have tried not to ruin the pleasure of reading by creating elaborate assignments. Please refer to the student's grade level list for details. These assessments will be graded and included in the student's Language Arts or English grade for the first grading period.
- All assigned book selections, and most of the student-selected ones, are available for purchase through Amazon.com or from other booksellers. Our SRCS library has at least one copy of each assigned book, and many of the books will be available in the public library.

If you have any questions about the Summer Reading Program, please let us know.

Sincerely,  
SRCS Administration



*The worth of a book is to be measured by what you can carry away from it. ~James Bryce*



2011 Summer Reading  
Rising 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

12<sup>th</sup> grade students will read two books for summer reading: the required book specified below and one book of their choice from the list of options below.

**Required Book:** *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens

**Required Book Assessment:** During the first week back to school in August, you will spend one of your English class periods writing an in-class essay related to the required novel. You will be given an essay prompt that will require you to think about the novel, make connections, and support your ideas with examples and specifics from the novel. The grade on the essay will be recorded as one entry in a gradebook category worth 30%. For example, tests in Mrs. Hassen's class are worth 30% of a student's semester grade; therefore, she would enter the essay grade as one test grade. Other English teachers might use a different category, but still one that counts 30% of the semester grade.

**Student-Choice Book List:** Please choose the unabridged version of a book if there is a choice.

- *The Hiding Place* - Corrie ten Boom
- *The Illustrated Man* - Ray Bradbury
- *The Screwtape Letters* - C. S. Lewis
- *All My Sons* - Arthur Miller
- *The Killer Angels* - Michael Shaara
- *Dracula* - Bram Stoker
- *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* - Jules Verne
- *The Glass Menagerie* - Tennessee Williams

**Student-Choice Book Assessment:** You will receive a grade of either 100 or 0 for your student-choice novel depending on whether or not you read the book and returned this sheet, complete with parental verification. This grade will be entered in a 20% category in the English teacher's gradebook. Early in the school year, students will be organized into book discussion groups (according to the book they chose), and you and the others in your group will discuss and compare ideas about your novel one day during an extended lunch, complete with pizza and drinks provided by the school. Which character would you most want to trade places with? What did the main character learn? What scene in the book stands out most to you? What did you think of the ending? What's another way the book could have ended? You'll discuss questions like these. Don't be the only one in your group without something to say!!

**In the space below, please write the requested information about your student-choice book. Return this sheet to your English teacher during the first week of school.**

(student name) \_\_\_\_\_ (book title) \_\_\_\_\_ (author) \_\_\_\_\_

**I verify that my son/daughter has read this book in its entirety.**

(parent signature) \_\_\_\_\_