



SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL

2017 Summer Reading Program

Summer is a great time to enjoy reading, and the Saint Mary's School Department of English is excited to sponsor this year's Summer Reading program. This summer, students will read selections chosen by the Department. Selections are divided by grade, and students should complete their reading by August 28, the first day of school. Students will complete Summer Reading assessments in their English classes; assessments will include both group discussions and written assessments. As the assessments will be graded, students should be attentive to important elements such as character, plot, and theme. Students who are enrolled in two English classes (for example, Creative Writing and English III) should expect an assessment in each class. Students enrolled in AP classes should expect required readings in addition to the Saint Mary's Summer Reading.

Shop local. All our Summer Reading Books are available at Raleigh's quality independent bookseller, [Quail Ridge Books](#). There will be a Saint Mary's Summer Reading table at the store.

Rising 9th Graders – *A Hope More Powerful Than the Sea*, by Melissa Fleming

An eye-opening true story of a Syrian refugee, this account written by the chief spokesperson for the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees is as inspiring as it is heart-wrenching. The narrative follows courageous Doaa in her journey of loss and hope through the greatest humanitarian crisis of our time.

Rising 10th Graders – *The Power of Half*, by Hannah Salwen and Kevin Salwen

When 14-year old Hannah Salwen realizes she and her family are accumulating too much stuff, a bold commitment to simplifying and down-sizing is made. Navigating the complexities that come with deciding to live with less, this inspiring account details the challenges and questions faced by a family that aims to do something that matters.

Rising 11th Graders – *An Unsuitable Job for a Woman*, by P. D. James

For this selection, we have a little fun enjoying an exquisitely crafted crime novel featuring James' brave yet vulnerable Cordelia Gray. This selection was chosen to coincide with the publication *P.D. James: A Companion to the Mystery Fiction* by Saint Mary's very own resident mystery expert, Dr. Laurel Young!

Rising 12th Graders – *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, by Helen Simonson

In this wonderful debut novel, a small village in the countryside is disrupted when Major Ernest Pettigrew, an exemplar of all things properly English, falls in love with Mrs. Jasmina Ali, the Pakistani proprietor of a local shop. Drawn together by their love of literature and their loss of spouses, they resist the critiques and criticisms of the villagers in this surprising and charming comedy.