



## 2011 St. Andrew's School Summer Reading

Summer is a time for friends, for family, and for getting outdoors and exploring nature, but it is also, we hope, a time to read.

Reading, increasingly, is a lost art, and at times it seems as if American culture is conspiring against the printed word. Nearly half of all Americans aged 18 to 24 read no books for pleasure, and the percentage of 17-year-olds who read nothing at all for pleasure has doubled over a twenty-year period. Newspapers are losing their readerships, with some migrating to the Web, pale versions of their paper selves. While there is certainly a great deal of reading happening on the Internet, this reading, studies have demonstrated, is a lesser form of literacy, especially when compared to the close, concentrated engagement demanded by longer works of fiction, history, and argument.

For anyone who cares about the printed word and fabric of our civic culture, these trends are cause for concern. Learning to read—not simply for comprehension but for pleasure and understanding—is at the core of what it means to be educated, and for that reason, it is at the center of the St. Andrew's experience.

This year we ask that each student read a minimum of four books over the course of the summer: the all-school read, *Cry the Beloved Country*, by Alan Paton, which was selected from a list of books nominated by students at the School; one or two required texts for each Form; and one or two other books, depending on the student's Form, from the attached reading list. This list has been compiled from faculty recommendations over the years and serves as a great starting point for reading this summer.

It should be said that we consider the assigned books a minimum, and we hope that students, with the help and guidance of their parents, will read well beyond them, seeking out titles that reflect their own interests and passions.

Here are some suggestions that might help you develop your own reading list and cultivate the habit of reading:

1. Seek out recommendations from people you trust. Ask parents, your friends, your teachers, and librarians for suggestions.
2. Go to the library or a good bookstore, and spend some time there browsing.
3. Read everyday. Develop the habit of reading a major newspaper.
4. Trust the book. Robert Bell of Williams College exhorts his students to become what he calls "magnanimous readers," pointing out that magnanimity means not simply "generosity" but "largeness of spirit." He writes, "A good reader is or becomes magnanimous, moving beyond the narrow confines of self to heed multiple possibilities, develop empathy, and exercise compassion."
5. Be patient. A good novel or work of history may take 50-100 pages to bring you into its world. Allow yourself to become absorbed.

Best wishes for a great and rewarding summer.



## 2011 St. Andrew's School Summer Reading

**All-School Read:** Alan Paton, *Cry the Beloved Country*

### Required Reading, by Form:

#### III Form:

- Ernest Gaines, *A Lesson Before Dying*
- Two books from the list below.

#### IV Form:

- Julia Alvarez, *In the Time of Butterflies*
- Bruce Feiler, *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths*
- One book from the list below

#### V Form:

- Junot Diaz, *Drown*
- Philip Roth, *Goodbye, Columbus* (only the title story from this collection)
- Two books from the list below

#### VI Form Exhibition Texts

##### AS English 4

##### (choose three of five):

- Isabelle Allende, *The House of the Spirits*
- Junot Diaz, *The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*
- Edward P. Jones, *The Known World*
- Ian McEwan, *Atonement*
- Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*

##### AS English 4: History, Literature and the Contested Past (choose three of four):

- Junot Diaz, *The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*
- Edward P. Jones, *The Known World*
- Tim O'Brien, *In the Lake of the Woods*
- Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*

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### Fiction:

- James Agee, *A Death in the Family*
- Isabel Allende, *Ines of my Soul: A Novel*
- Roy Arundhati, *The God of Small Things*.
- Margaret Atwood, *A Handmaid's Tale*.
- John Banville, *The Infinities*
- Madison Smartt Bell, *All Souls' Rising*
- A.S. Byatt, *Possession*
- Peter Carey, *Jack Maggs*
- Anton Chekhov, *The Cherry Orchard* and *Three Sisters*
- Tracy Chevalier, *Girl With a Pearl Earring*
- Chris Cleave, *Little Bee*
- Bernard Cornwell, *Agincourt: A Novel*
- Bryce Courtenay, *The Power of One: A Novel*
- Michael Cunningham, *The Hours*
- Edwidge Danticat, *Breath, Eyes, Memory*
- Charles Dickens, *Bleak House*
- Isak Dinesen, *Seven Gothic Tales*
- Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*
- Jonathan Safran Foer, *Everything is Illuminated*

### **Fiction (*continued*)**

- E. M. Forster, *Howards End*
- Jonathan Franzen, *The Corrections*
- Robert Harris, *Pompeii: A Novel*
- Kent Haruf, *Plainsong*.
- Shirley Hazard, *The Transit of Venus*
- Henrik Ibsen, *Master Builder*
- Edward P. Jones, *The Known World*
- James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
- Barbara Kingsolver, *Poisonwood Bible: A Novel*
- Ursula Le Guin, *Lavinia*
- Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- David Malouf, *Ransom*
- David Mason, *Ludlow*
- Cormac McCarthy, *All the Pretty Horses*
- Maile Meloy, *Both Ways is the Only Way I Want It*
- Rohinton Mistry, *A Fine Balance*
- Toni Morrison, *Sula*
- Iris Murdoch, *The Good Apprentice*
- John Nichols, *The Milagro Beanfield War*
- Patrick O'Brien, *Master and Commander*
- Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried*
- Ellis Peters, *Brother Cadfael* series
- Jodi Picoult, *Nineteen Minutes*
- Anthony Powell, *A Dance to the Music of Time*
- Steven Pressfield, *Gates of Fire*
- Annie Proulx, *The Shipping News*
- Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*
- J. D. Salinger, *Franny and Zooey*
- Steven Saylor, *Roman Blood*
- Dai Sijie and Ina Rilke, *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress: A Novel*
- Zadie Smith, *On Beauty* and *White Teeth*
- Ahdaf Soueif, *The Map of Love*
- John Steinbeck, *East of Eden*
- Kathryn Stockett, *The Help*
- Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- Graham Swift, *Waterland*
- Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
- Barry Unsworth, *Sacred Hunger*
- John Updike, *Rabbit, Run*
- Gore Vidal, *Lincoln*
- Edith Wharton, *The Age of Innocence*
- T.H. White, *The Once and Future King*
- Thornton Wilder, *The Ides of March*
- Tobias Woolf, *Old School*

**Fiction (continued)**

- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
- Richard Wright, *Black Boy*
- Carlos Ruiz Zafon and Lucia Graces, *Shadow of the Wind*

**Philosophy & Psychology:**

- Daniel Coyle, *The Talent Code: Unlocking the Secret of Skill in Sports, Art, Music, Math and Just about Anything*
- Joshua Foer, *Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything*
- John Francis, *The Ragged Edge of Silence: Finding Peace in a Noisy World*

**Social Sciences:**

- James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*
- Paul Ehrlich, *Population Bomb*
- Anne Fadiman, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*
- Glenda Gilmore, *Defying Dixie: The Radical Roots of Civil Rights, 1919-1950*
- Al Gore, *Earth in the Balance: Ecology and the Human Spirit* and *An Inconvenient Truth: The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming and What We Can Do About It*
- Wangari Maathai, *Unbowed: A Memoir*
- Malika Oufkir, *Stolen Lives*
- Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*
- Ron Suskind, *A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League*
- Stewart L. Udall, *The Quiet Crisis*
- Alec Wilkinson, *Big Sugar*

**Language:**

- Anonymous and Michael Alpert, *Lazarillo de Tormes and the Swindler*
- Sonia Nazario, *La Travesia de Enrique*
- Arturo Perez-Reverte, *El Capitan Alatriste*
- Jesus Sanchez Adalid, *El Mozarabe*
- Mario Vargas Llosa, *Captain Pantoja and the Special Service*

**Science & Mathematics:**

- Rachel Carson, *The Silent Spring*
- John Derbyshire, *Prime Obsession: Bernard Riemann and the Greatest Unsolved Problem in Mathematics*
- Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*.
- Marcus Du Sautoy, *Music of the Primes: Searching to Solve the Greatest Mystery in Mathematics*
- William W. Dunham, *Journey Through Genius: The Great Theorems of Mathematics*
- Jane Goodall, *Through a Window: My Thirty Years with the Chimpanzees of Gombe*
- Sue Hubbell, *A Country Year: Living the Questions*
- Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*
- Farley Mowatt, *Never Cry Wolf: The Amazing True Story of Life Among Arctic Wolves*
- Richard Preston, *The Wild Trees: A Story of Passion and Daring*

### **Science & Mathematics (continued)**

- Simon Singh and John Lynch, *Fermats Enigma: The Epic Quest to Solve the World's Greatest Mathematics Problem*
- Stephen Strogatz, *The Calculus of Friendship: What a Teacher and a Student Learned About Life While Corresponding About Mathematics*
- Lawrence Weschler, *Mr. Wilson's Cabinet of Wonder: Pronged Ants, Horned Humans, Mice on Toast, and Other Marvels of Jurassic Technology*

### **Technology (Health & Medicine, Engineering):**

- Atul Gawande, *Better: A Surgeon's Notes on Performance; The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right; Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science*
- William Kamkwamba, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*
- Tracy Kidder, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*
- Rebecca Skloot, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

### **Arts & Recreation:**

- Carlos Acosta, *No Way Home: A Dancer's Journey from the Streets of Havana to the Stages of the World*
- Li Cunxin, *Mao's Last Dancer*
- Jennifer Horman, *Apollo's Angels: A History of Ballet*
- Ross King, *Brunelleschi's Dome: How a Renaissance Genius Reinvented Architecture and Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*
- Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*
- George Will, *Men at Work: The Craft of Baseball*

### **Poetry & Literature:**

- Edward Abbey, *Desert Solitaire*
- Betty Collins, *The Art of Drowning*
- Wendy Cope, *The Cures for Love: Selected Poems, 1979-2006*
- Euripides, *The Bacchae*
- Gustave Flaubert, *The Temptation of Saint Anthony*
- Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Wait Til Next Year*
- Henrik Ibsen, *A Doll's House*
- X.J. Kennedy, *In a Prominent Bar in Secaucus: New and Selected Poems, 1955-2007*
- Anne Lamott, *Bird by Bird*
- Walker Percy, *Lost in the Cosmos*
- William Shakespeare, *King Lear* and *The Tempest*
- A.E. Stallings, *Hapax: Poems*
- Richard Wilbur, *Collected Poems 1943-2004*

### **History & Geography:**

- Michael Beschloss, *Presidential Courage*
- Philip Caputo, *A Rumor of War*
- James Carroll, *An American Requiem*
- Thurston Clarke, *The Last Campaign*

### **History & Geography (*continued*)**

- Dave Eggers, *Zeitoun*
- Joseph Ellis, *Founding Brothers*
- Laura Hillenbrand, *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*
- Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
- Adrian Nicole LeBlanc, *Random Family*
- Michael Patrick MacDonald, *All Souls: A Family Story from Southie*
- David McCullough, *1776*
- James McBride, *The Color of Water*
- Stacy Schiff, *Cleopatra: A Life*
- Art Spiegelman, *Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History*