

2026 Summer Reading (Choose one)

9th Grade

***The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom**

This novel follows Eddie, a maintenance worker who dies while trying to save a child at an amusement park. In heaven, he meets five people whose lives intersected with his in unexpected ways. Each person reveals how Eddie's seemingly ordinary life had extraordinary impact. While *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* presents an imaginative view of the afterlife, it is not a biblical depiction of heaven. Still, the story offers a meaningful message about purpose, sacrifice, and how our lives impact others.

***For the Glory: Eric Liddell's Journey of Faith and Survival in a Japanese Prison Camp* by Duncan Hamilton**

This biography tells the story of Olympic gold medalist Eric Liddell, famously portrayed in *Chariots of Fire*, and his later life as a missionary in China. Captured during World War II and placed in a Japanese internment camp, Liddell demonstrates remarkable courage, humility, and faith under extreme hardship.

***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins**

Set in a dystopian future nation called Panem, this novel follows Katniss Everdeen, a teenage girl forced to compete in a televised fight to the death. As she struggles to survive, Katniss challenges injustice and becomes a symbol of resistance.