ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL
SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTARY READING LIST

Please find the St. Anselm’s Abbey School list of suggested books below. We do not think that every student will or should read all of these books, but for those looking for summer or general supplementary reading, the following are books we suggest. While we hope that all Abbey Boys will read at least some of these books, only the most voracious readers will set themselves to reading everything.

The list is separated into sections by Form, with the list getting longer and more difficult in content by year. Special consideration is given to books in religion and counseling by placing them in separate categories at the end of each Form, an arrangement that acknowledges that these are special kinds of reading. We have also tried to include a list of the books included in the school curriculum for each grade: this is subject to change every year, and we do not recommend that students read those books before they take the classes, but students who are entering the school in later grades may want to see what they have missed. Every Upper Schooler at one time or another makes reference to *Huckleberry Finn*. Newer students who did not take Form III English with Mr. Vaile may want to be in on the commentary!

The Middle School lists are heavier on adventure, science fiction, fantasy, and kid-oriented books, with subject matter more appropriate to older students reserved for high school. Form III has more world religious literature and classical literature, while Form IV relates more to later periods of history – this corresponds to the outline of the social sciences curriculum in those years. The books on this list were suggested by faculty members and drawn from lists of the most important books to read compiled by critics and other readers, with an emphasis on both classics and contemporary novels and poetry. This includes a few leading examples of books originally in French, German, Russian, and other languages. The list also includes books and authors that have won major literary prizes like the Nobel, Pulitzer, Booker, Newberry, and Goncourt over the years.

Enjoy.

**To Read before or during Form A**

- Richard Adams, *Watership Down*
- Peter S. Beagle, *The Last Unicorn*
- Ray Bradbury, *Dandelion Wine*
- Lewis Carroll, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*
- Norman Juster, *The Phantom Tollbooth*
- C. S. Lewis, *The Chronicles of Narnia*
- Rudyard Kipling, *The Jungle Book*
- Madeleine L’Engle, *A Wrinkle in Time*
- Jack London, *The Call of the Wild*
- Robert Louis Stevenson, *Treasure Island*
- J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*
- Mark Twain, *Tom Sawyer*
Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy, Gary Schmidt
(Summer Reading)
The Pearl, John Steinbeck
Animal Farm, George Orwell
The Chocolate War, Robert Cormier
Across Five Aprils, Irene Hunt
Letters from a Slave Boy: The Story of Joseph Jacobs,
Mary Lyons
Tad Lincoln’s Father, Julia Taft Bayne
The Contender, Robert Lipsyte
A Midsummer Night’s Dream, William Shakespeare
The Pigman, Paul Zindel
Selected Poetry and Short Stories

Religion:
Mary Fabyan Windeatt, St. Benedict: Hero of the Hills
The Book of Psalms (from the Bible)

To Read before or during Form I

Douglas Adams, The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy
Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass
Richard Connell, The Most Dangerous Game
C. S. Lewis, Out of the Silent Planet
Jack London, White Fang
Robert Louis Stevenson, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy*
Mark Twain, *Life on the Mississippi*
H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine*
William Goldman, *The Princess Bride*
Lemony Snicket, *A Series of Unfortunate Events* series
Salman Rushdie, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*
Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*
Jules Verne, *20,000 Leagues under the Sea*
Sir Walter Scott, *Ivanhoe*
Jon Krakauer, *Into Thin Air*
Rudyard Kipling, *Captains Courageous*
H. Rider Haggard, *She*
Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Lost World*
Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca, *Adventures in the Unknown Interior of America*
Jean de la Fontaine, *The Fables*
E. T. A. Hoffmann, *The Golden Pot and Other Tales*
H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine*
C. S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*
Madeleine L’Engle, *A Wind in the Door* and *A Swiftly Tilting Planet*
Lian Hearn, *Tales of the Otori*
Terry Pratchett, *The Discworld Series*
Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women* and *Jo’s Boys*

**Religion:**
*The Rule of St. Benedict*
The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke)

**English Curriculum:**
Mildred Taylor, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*
Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*
Shakespeare, *The Tempest*
Mark Twain, *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

**To Read before or during Form II**

Isaac Asimov, *Foundation Trilogy*
Ray Bradbury, *The Martian Chronicles*
Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*
Alexandre Dumas (père), *The Three Musketeers*
C. S. Lewis, *Perelandra*
John Steinbeck, *The Red Pony*
Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Black Arrow*
Mark Twain, *The Prince and the Pauper*
H. G. Wells, *The War of the Worlds*
Philip Pullman, *His Dark Materials* series
Salman Rushdie, *Luka and the Fire of Life*
Jules Verne, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*
Sir Walter Scott, *Rob Roy*
John Knowles, *A Separate Peace*
H. G. Wells, *The Island of Dr. Moreau*
Plutarch, *Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans*
Larry McMurtry, *Lonesome Dove*
Michael Shaara, *The Killer Angels*
The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin
Rudyard Kipling, *Kidnapped*
Doug Stanton, *In Harm’s Way: The Sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis*
Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
Ferdowski, *The Shanameh*
Steven Johnson, *The Ghost Map*
Virgil, *The Aeneid*
S. E. Hinton, *The Outsiders*
Ken Kesey, *One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest*

**English Curriculum:**
Homer, *The Odyssey*
William Golding, *Lord of the Flies*
Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*
Ernest Hemingway, *The Old Man and the Sea*
Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar*

**Religion:**
The Gospel of John (from the Bible)

**Counseling:**
Thomas Armstrong, *Seven Kinds of Smart: Identifying and Developing Your Multiple Intelligences*
To Read before or during Form III

Students transferring into Form III from other schools are strongly encouraged to read Edith Hamilton's Mythology, particularly if they have never read or studied classical mythology.

Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*
Alexandre Dumas (père), *The Count of Monte Cristo*
Xenophon, *The Education of Cyrus the Great* (Cyropaedia)
John Feinstein, *A Season on the Brink*
Aeschylus, *The Orestesia*
C. S. Lewis, *That Hideous Strength*
Plato, Dialogues on trial and death of Socrates (Euthyphro, Apology, Crito, Phaedo)
Euripides, *Medea / The Bacchae*
Mark Twain, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*
H. G. Wells, *The Invisible Man*
Tobias Wolfe, *This Boy’s Life*
*Epic of Gilgamesh*
*Beowulf*
*The Vinland Sagas: The Norse Discovery of America*
Torquato Tasso, *Gerusalemme Liberata*
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*
Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*
Goethe, *The Sorrows of Young Werther*
Edmund Morris, *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt*
Franz Kafka, *The Metamorphosis*
William Alcott, *The Young Man’s Guide*
Christine de Pizan, *The Book of Deeds of Arms and of Chivalry*
Sun Tzu, *The Art of Warfare*
Confucius, *The Analects*
Laozi, *Tao Te Ching*
Norman Maclean, *A River Runs Through It*
Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*
Raymond Chandler, *The Long Goodbye*
Robert Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*
Robert Heinlein, *The Puppet Masters*
Thor Heyerdahl, *The Kon-Tiki Expedition*
*The Travels of Marco Polo*
Frederick Burnaby, *On Horseback Through Asia Minor*
Martin Dugard, *Into Africa: The Epic Adventures of Stanley and Livingstone Stories from the Thousand and One Nights*
Michael Crichton, Jurassic Park
Willa Cather, Death Comes for the Archbishop
John Le Carré, The Spy Who Came in from the Cold
Fyodor Dostoevsky, The Double
Neil Gaiman, The Sandman
Dava Sobel, Longitude

Counseling:
Daniel Goleman, Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ

Religion:
The Letters of St. Paul (from the Bible)

English Curriculum:
John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath
Mark Twain, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet
The Norton Anthology of African-American Poetry (selections)
The Haiku Reader (selections)

To Read before or during Form IV
James Heller, Catch-22
Mark Helprin, A Soldier of the Great War
Laura Hillenbrand, Unbroken
Walter Isaacson, Steve Jobs (biography)
James Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
Plato, The Republic
Richard Russo, Nobody’s Fool and Straight Man
Shakespeare, Hamlet / Macbeth
Kurt Vonnegut, Slaughterhouse Five
Carlos Ruiz Zafón, The Shadow of the Wind
Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart
Rick Atkinson, The Long Gray Line
Ovid, Metamorphoses
Euripides, The Trojan Women / Iphigenia at Aulis
Ariosto, Orlando Furioso
Cervantes, Don Quixote
Aeschylus, Prometheus Bound / The Persians
C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity
Goethe, Wilhelm Meister’s Apprenticeship
Fyodor Dostoevsky, Crime and Punishment
John Steinbeck, *East of Eden*
Edmond Rostand, *Cyrano de Bergerac*
John Kennedy Toole, *A Confederacy of Dunces*
Paul Theroux, *The Great Railway Bazaar*
Dashiell Hammett, *The Maltese Falcon*
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *Wind, Sand, and Stars*
Giovanni Boccaccio, *Decameron*
Umberto Eco, *The Name of the Rose*
Marguerite Yourcenar, *The Abyss*
Gertrude Stein, *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*
Ernest Hemingway, *A Moveable Feast*
Stendhal, *The Red and the Black*
Friedrich Schiller, *William Tell*
Walter Miller, *Canticle for Leibowitz*
George Orwell, *Down and Out in Paris and London*
Hervé Bazin, *Viper in the Fist* (Vipère au Poing)
P. G. Wodehouse, *The World of Jeeves* (short stories)
Alexandre Dumas (père), *The Vicomte de Bragelonne*
Malcolm Gladwell, *Outliers*
William Manchester, *Goodbye, Darkness: A Memoir of the Pacific War*
William Manchester, *A World Lit Only by Fire: The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance*
Anthony Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*
Lord Kinross, *Ataturk: A Biography of Mustafa Kemal*
Robert Heinlein, *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*
Robert Heinlein, *And He Built a Crooked House*
Robert Heinlein, *Universe*
Frank Herbert, *Dune*
H. P. Lovecraft, *Tales*
Willa Cather, *My Ántonia*
Sophocles, *The Theban Plays* (Oedipus Rex)
Sophocles, *Ajax*
Leo Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*
Leonard Mlodinow, *The Drunkard’s Walk*

**Counseling:**
Daniel Pink, *A Whole New Mind: Why Right Brainers Will Rule the Future*
Laurence J. Peter, *The Peter Principle*
Religion:
Acts of the Apostles, Revelation (from the Bible)

English Curriculum:
J. D. Salinger, *Catcher in the Rye*
F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*
Shakespeare, *Othello*
Elie Wiesel, *Night*
Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman*
August Wilson, *Fences*
*Perrine’s Literature* (anthology)

*To Read before or during Forms V and VI*
Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
James Joyce, *Ulysses*
Thomas Pynchon, *Gravity’s Rainbow*
Jean Paul Sartre, *No Exit*
Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*
St. Augustine, *Confessions*
Dante, *Purgatorio* (Form V) / *Paradiso* (Form VI)
Pat Conroy, *Prince of Tides*
Henry James, *The Turn of the Screw, Other Tales*
Khaled Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*
Walter Isaacson, *Albert Einstein*
Tim O’Brien, *The Things They Carried* and *In the Lake of the Woods*
Jim Collins, *Good to Great* and *Great by Choice*
Hermann Hesse, *Siddhartha*
Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*
Shakespeare, *Othello* / *King Lear*
Boethius, *The Consolation of Philosophy*
John Milton, *Paradise Lost*
Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver’s Travels*
William Manchester, *Douglas MacArthur, 1880-1964*
Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*
Henry James, *The Wings of the Dove*
Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*
Alex Ross, *The Rest Is Noise* (history of modern classical music)
Matthew Guerrieri, *The First Four Notes: Beethoven’s Fifth and the Human Imagination*
Franz Kafka, *The Trial*
C. S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*
Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago*
Joseph Conrad, *The Heart of Darkness*
Archie Roosevelt, *For Lust of Knowing*
Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*
V. S. Naipaul, *A Bend in the River*
Salman Rushdie, *Midnight’s Children*
Cormac McCarthy, *The Crossing*
Cormac McCarthy, *All the Pretty Horses*
John Le Carré, *Smiley’s People*
John Le Carré, *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*
Michel de Montaigne, *Essays*
Margaret Mitchell, *Gone with the Wind*
James B. McPerson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era*
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Faust*
Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*
Robert Graves, *I, Claudius*
Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*
Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Idiot*
Norman Mailer, *The Naked and the Dead*
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*
Bram Stoker, *Dracula*
Leo Tolstoy, *War and Peace*
Umberto Eco, *Foucault’s Pendulum*
Søren Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling*
Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil’s Dictionary*
Mark Twain, *The Innocents Abroad*
Gabriel García Márquez, *Love in the Time of Cholera*
Orhan Pamuk, *My Name is Red*
Haruki Murakami, *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*
Haruki Murakami, *Kafka on the Shore*
Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*
Paolo Coelho, *The Alchemist*
Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World*
Saul Bellow, *Humboldt’s Gift*
Stephen Minta, *On a Voiceless Shore: Byron in Greece*
Thomas Mann, *Doktor Faustus*
Thomas Mann, *Buddenbrooks*
Sinclair Lewis, *Babbitt*
T. S. Eliot, *Four Quartets*
François Mauriac, *Thérèse Desqueyroux*
Elias Canetti, *Auto-da-Fé*
Octavio Paz, *The Labyrinth of Solitude*
Jorge Luis Borges, *Ficciones*
Günter Grass, *The Tin Drum*
Paul Theroux, *Sir Vidia’s Shadow*
Imre Kertész, *Fatelessness*
Susan Sontag, *On Photography / Regarding the Pain of Others*
Joan Didion, *We Tell Ourselves Stories in Order to Live*
Guy de Maupassant, *Stories*
Louis-Ferdinand Céline, *Journey to the End of Night*
François-René de Chateaubriand, *Memoirs from Beyond the Grave*
François-René de Chateaubriand, *The Genius of Christianity*
André Malraux, *Man's Fate*
Graham Allison, * Essence of Decision*
Alain-Fournier, *Le Grand Meaulnes*
Guillaume Apollinaire, *Alcools*
Raymond Queneau, *Zazie in the Metro*
Georges Perec, *A Void*
André Breton, *Nadja*
Louis Aragon, *Paris Peasant*
Luigi Pirandello, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*
Honoré de Balzac, *Le Père Goriot*
Honoré de Balzac, *Eugénie Grandet*
Denis Diderot, *Jacques the Fatalist*
Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Henrik Ibsen, *Hedda Gabler*
Henrik Ibsen, *The Doll’s House*
Nikolai Gogol, *Dead Souls*
Fernando Pessoa, *The Book of Disquiet*
Alfred Döblin, *Berlin Alexanderplatz*
Robert Musil, *The Man without Qualities*
Stefan Zweig, *Chess Story*
Rainer Maria Rilke, *The Duino Elegies*
Rainer Maria Rilke, *Letters to a Young Poet*
Toni Morrison, *Beloved*
Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon*
W. G. Sebald, *Austerlitz*
Charles Baudelaire, *The Flowers of Evil*
A. S. Byatt, *Possession*
Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure*
Thomas Hardy, *Tess of the d’Urbervilles*
Graham Greene, *The End of the Affair*
Laurence Sterne, *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*
Kingsley Amis, *Lucky Jim*
Douglas Hofstadter, *Gödel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid*
Anthony Powell, *A Dance to the Music of Time*
Martin Amis, *London Fields*
Martin Amis, *The Information*
John Cheever, *Collected Stories*
Richard Yates, *Revolutionary Road*
Sebastian Junger, *The Perfect Storm*
Michael Chabon, *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*
Ivan Turgenev, *Fathers and Sons*
Anton Chekhov, *The Cherry Orchard / Uncle Vanya*

**Religion:**
Thomas Merton, *The Seven Storey Mountain*

**Counseling:**
Howard Gardner, *Five Minds for the Future*

**AP English Reading List:**
Tim O’Brien, *The Things They Carried*
Shakespeare, *The Merchant of Venice*
Vladimir Nabokov, *Pnin*
Vladimir Nabokov, *Transparent Things*
Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*
Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*
Herman Melville, Short Stories (Benito Cereno, Billy Budd, The Encantadas)*
Flannery O’Connor, Short Stories (Parker’s Back, Good Country People, Revelation, The Violent Bear it Away)*
Anton Chekhov, Short Stories*
Don DeLillo, *White Noise*
J. M. Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians*
George Orwell, *Keep the Aspidistra Flying*
H. G. Wells, *Tono Bungay*
Graham Greene, *The Power and the Glory*
Graham Greene, *Brighton Rock*
Yann Martel, *Life of Pi*
Cormac McCarthy, *No Country for Old Men*
Cormac McCarthy, *The Road*
Cormac McCarthy, *Blood Meridian*
Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*
Geoffrey Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*
Gabriel García Márquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
José Saramago, *Blindness*
E. M. Forster, *Howards End*
Louise Erdrich, *Tracks*
Kate Chopin, *The Awakening*
Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Knut Hamsun, *Hunger*
Joseph Conrad, *The Secret Agent*
Jeanette Winterson, *The Passion*
Ana Castillo, *So Far From God*
Jamaica Kincaid, *A Small Place*
J. G. Ballard, *High Rise*
George Eliot, *Middlemarch*
Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
T. S. Eliot, *The Wasteland*
William Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury*
*Spoon River Anthology*
Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises*
Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick*
Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*
*The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*
Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*
E. E. Cummings, *Poems*
Henry Taylor, *The Flying Change*
Sylvia Plath, *Ariel*
Wallace Stevens, *Poems*
William Carlos Williams, *Spring and All*
Robert Desnos, *Poems*
Guillaume Apollinaire, *Calligrammes*
Allen Ginsberg, *Howl*