Guys Read

Beginning this year, the MUS Library hosted a series of Guys Read book clubs modeled on the national Guys Read movement started by author Jon Scieszka. Over 35 boys signed up, so the library started three study hall groups and two lunch groups. Due to schedule changes at semester, we ended up with just the lunch groups and the 5th period Study Hall group. Book clubs met once a month to discuss the books they’d read and books they’d like to read. The kids came up with books that they’d rather see on the school’s reading lists and talked about what makes a book worth reading. In preparation for author Gordon Korman’s stop at MUS, the groups read a few of his books and discussed them, and then enjoyed having lunch with Korman in February. Eighth grade club members have expressed an interest in forming a Ninth Grade Guys Read group in the Upper School next year, and the seventh graders want to continue the program next year.

Authors Visit MUS

After Gordon Korman’s visit, MUS was pleased to host three more authors: Lucinda Franks, Dwight Fryer, and Peter Kreeft. Ms. Franks spoke in chapel and to three upper school classes about journalism and her recently published book, My Father’s Secret War. Mr. Eikner arranged for Mr. Fryer to sign his books in the library after a chapel talk. Mr. Kreeft addressed the Metcalf Symposium about surfing and the meaning of life. The library was honored to have a part in making these authors welcome, whether by displaying their books, hosting a book signing, or arranging their campus visit. We have plenty of their books available for checkout.

Summer Hours

As usual, the library will be open every Wednesday from 10-2. You can come check out books on Wednesdays and they won’t be due back until the first day of school.

Survey Says . . .

| Lower School | 67% come once a month or more by their own choice |
| Upper School | 60% come once a week or more by their own choice |
| Unique Answers | add a reading playground; add stuff that’s ‘radically bodacious’; public library has a modern look; add sweet furniture; do away with passes; add a McDonalds; add a ‘chill out’ room; fish tank |
New Arrivals
by Mrs. Arant (from publisher’s descriptions)

Remember how hot it is in July? Camp out near your air conditioning vent and read a book to cool off. Here are a few recent additions to the MUS Library that you can check out once exams are over.

Hacking Harvard by Robin Wasserman
“Oceans 11” meets “The Princeton Review” in this high-stakes comedy, as four too-smart-for-their-own-good pranksters take on the ultimate challenge: they bet $20,000 that they can get anyone into Harvard.

Teen, Inc. by Stefan Petrucha
Fourteen-year-old Jaiden has been raised by NECorp since he was a baby. It’s annoying when they give slideshow presentations on potential girlfriends or make him attend accountants’ retreats to boost his math grade. But when he discovers that the corporation has been lying about producing illegal levels of mercury emissions, he and his two friends decide to do something about it.

The Final Warning: a Maximum Ride novel by James Patterson
While on a mission to Antarctica to save the world from global warming, fourteen-year-old Maximum Ride and the other members of the Flock—a band of genetically modified children who can fly—are pursued by their creator, the Uber-Director, who wants to auction them off to the highest bidder. This is the latest installment of the popular Maximum Ride series.

Acceleration by Graham McNamee
Stuck working in the Lost and Found of the Toronto Transit Authority for the summer, seventeen-year-old Duncan finds the diary of a serial killer and sets out to stop him.

Unwind by Neal Shusterman
In a future world where those between the ages of thirteen and eighteen can have their lives “unwound” and their body parts harvested for use by others, three teens go to extreme lengths to uphold their beliefs—and, perhaps, save their own lives.

The Burn Journals by Brent Runyon
When he was 14 years old, Brent Runyon set himself on fire. Runyon describes that devastating suicide attempt and his recovery over the following year—the terrible impact on his friends, the evolution of his family, and the brutal honesty of his own dark emotions.

Seven Ideas for Summer Reading: Guys on the Go
1. Skim the front page of the newspaper at home every day—keep informed about what’s going on in the country and the world.
2. When you’re on your summer trips, read the in flight magazine, or pick up a paperback in the airport bookstore.
3. Catch up with news—serious or strange—on your internet provider’s homepage.
4. Turn off the tv for one week and see how much better your brain functions at the end of the week.
5. If you play a musical instrument or a sport, read a book about improving your technique.
6. Read the Bible or another sacred text; improve your theological literacy and enrich your spiritual heritage.
7. Read the nutritional panels on the food you eat so you’ll know what you’re really eating.

Senior Starbucks Days
This year the library honored the MUS seniors with three days of pastries and Starbucks coffee. Seniors could come into the library between 7:45 and 10:45 to receive their complimentary cup and a muffin. Teachers also came in and picked up a cup for themselves. Our grateful thanks to Anise Mah, a parent volunteer, for getting Starbucks to donate half of the coffee!