Teen Read Week is a yearly national celebration during October in which libraries promote books and reading. This year the theme was “Turn Dreams into Reality @ Your Library.” Over the past nine years, the Hyde Library at MUS has participated by holding contests, presenting book readings or stage scenes, and serving cookies to students and faculty. Three years ago, we instituted two events: the Battle of the Books and the Reading Contest. For the Reading Contest this year, students could choose from Google Forms, email, or a Goodreads discussion board to enter; they simply listed the title, author, and a comment for each book they had read since the beginning of school.

The first place winner, Ethan Schaffer, had read 30 books this school year; the second place winner, Zack Whicker, had read 12 books. They were awarded a book of their choice or a gift card.

Our Battle of the Books contest contains questions based on summer reading books. Students at first select the book to be quizzed on, but as the competition continues, the host may choose questions from the reading list for the student's grade. The winners were: Upper School, Zack Whicker; Lower School, Andrew Bragorgos. Winners received a book of their choice.

Finally, the library conducted a contest to guess the number of books in the library. Answers ranged widely, but our winner was Walker Crosby with 44,469, while second place fell to Ethan Schaffer with 44,218. The library actually had 44,502 physical books on our shelves as of the contest date.

Thanks to all of our parent volunteers who helped make Teen Read Week a success!

On December 12, the Hyde Library will be pleased to bring another author to MUS, Lyndsay Faye, who wrote the Holmesian novel, Dust and Shadow. Faye was noted for capturing the tone and style of Arthur Conan Doyle in her homage to John Watson. Her latest project is a series which begins with Gods of Gotham, an Edgar Award nominee and a “sensational account of what early police work was like” in New York City, according to the New York Times Book Review. Mr. Tim Greer met Ms. Faye at a conference and has been instrumental in bringing her to MUS. After her chapel presentation, Faye will sign copies of her books, and cookies will be served. During 5th period, she will meet with Mr. Greer’s Detective Fiction class and anyone interested.
Dust and Shadow by Lyndsay Faye

*Dust and Shadow* gives readers a distinctive vintage mystery, pitting Sherlock Holmes against Jack the Ripper in a vividly detailed nineteenth-century London. Faye breathes new life into Sherlock Holmes, masterfully recreating one of history’s most diabolical villains with her version of Whitechapel’s serial killer. Penned as a pastiche by the loyal and courageous Dr. Watson, and brimming with impeccable historical detail, this astonishing debut novel explores the terrifying prospect of tracking a serial killer without the advantage of modern forensics and profiling.

The Gods of Gotham by Lyndsay Faye

*The Gods of Gotham* introduces Timothy Wilde: a close observer, a heedless romantic, and one of the first and best copper stars on New York City’s inaugural police force. The first in a series, this thriller is a stark look at a still-feral Manhattan, rife with crime and religious bigotry, and a character-driven family drama in which decades-old secrets are ultimately revealed.

Seven for a Secret by Lyndsay Faye

Six months after the formation of the NYPD, its most reluctant and talented officer, Timothy Wilde, thinks himself well versed in his city’s dark practices—until he learns of the gruesome underworld of lies and corruption ruled by the “blackbirders,” who snatch free Northerners of color from their homes, masquerade them as slaves, and sell them South to toil as plantation property. The abolitionist Timothy is horrified by these traders in human flesh. But in 1846, slave catching isn’t just legal—it’s law enforcement. When Lucy Adams staggers into Timothy’s office looking for help in finding her stolen family, their search for her mixed-race sister and son will plunge Timothy and his feral brother, Valentine, into a world where police are complicit and politics savage.

The Science of Sherlock Holmes by E.J. Wagner

This unique book uses the legendary adventures of Sherlock Holmes as a jumping-off point to discuss the growth of forensic science during the Victorian era. The book explores the emergence of science from superstition, how forensic autopsies evolved from anatomical dissection, the huge advances in blood chemistry and poison detection, and the early use of fingerprints, photography and trace evidence.

Ripper by Stefan Petrucha

Adopted by famous Pinkerton Agency Detective Hawking in 1895 New York, fourteen-year-old Carver Young hopes to find his birth father, but when he becomes involved in the pursuit of notorious killer Jack the Ripper, Carver discovers that finding the truth can be worse than ignorance.

Exam Week Refuel

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