Mrs. Anderson’s Favorite Books

**Wonder by Jane Palacio-** Although this is a novel for middle-school aged children, the message in this novel about kindness and accepting people’s differences is absolutely amazing. This story is very personal for my family, as we have a son who has a facial difference, as does the protagonist, Auggie, in the novel. It’s a quick read, that will give you all the “feels” at the end. I also should mention, that the movie, starring Jacob Tremblay, Julia Roberts, and Owen Wilson will be released on November 17th.

**The Red Queen, The White Queen, and The Other Boleyn Girl-** All written by Phillipa Gregory. These are historical fiction novels, based in the 1400-1500s, and wrestle with the interesting history of the monarchy of England, at the time, from the perspective of the women. These are long reads, but very interesting.

**The Kitchen House-**Written by Kathleen Grissom, exposes the best and the worst of owning a plantation during the time of slavery. The storyline is rich, and I found myself really getting involved with the characters.

**The Orphan Train-** Ok, so I think you’ve figured out that I like historical fiction. This one, however, follows a few young children during the Orphan Train here in the US from 1854-1929. Thousands of children found themselves literally on a train across the US as they were sold to the highest bidder as “orphans who needed a good home.” Many of them, however, found themselves to be nothing more than glorified slaves, in the homes of people who just wanted extra hands to work. This was not an uplifting book, rather, it was difficult to take in. However, it was gripping, and truly a part of history that I had never heard about until this year.