



Summer Reading 2015
Middle School Humanities
English 6
Mrs. Everett

ENTERING SIXTH GRADE

Summer is the perfect time to do lots of reading. You are required to read three books, but I hope that you will read many more!

Please read the following three books:

- 1. *The Cay***
- 2. A book from the “Suggested Titles” list below**
- 3. A free-choice book**

The free-choice book may be, but does not have to be, from the “Suggested Titles” list. I hope that you will discover new books and that you will share your favorites with the class. For the suggested and free choice books, please select books that you have not already read. If you have already read the listed book and it is part of a series, feel free to read the book in the series appropriate for you.

Although there is no specific writing assignment, I encourage you to read with care so that you are prepared to discuss and write about your reading in September.

Fondly,
Mrs. Everett

Required Reading:

The Cay by Theodore Taylor

In 1942, eleven-year-old Phillip Enright lives with his parents on the Dutch island of Curaçao, but when the war moves too close for comfort, his mother decides to travel with him back to the safety of Virginia. When their boat is torpedoed, however, Phillip is blinded and finds himself adrift on a life raft with an old man and a cat.

Suggested Titles:

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

A Gift of Magic by Lois Duncan

When an old woman dies, she leaves her grandchild Nancy with the extraordinary gift of magic. Nancy can read people's minds, know their thoughts, and make them do what she wants. Will she use her gift for good or to satisfy her own selfish desires?

Horten's Miraculous Mechanisms: Magic, Mystery, and a Very Strange Adventure by Lissa Evans

Ten-year-old Stuart is forced to move far away from all his friends. But on his very first day in his new home, Stuart is swept up in an extraordinary adventure: the quest to find his great-uncle Tony--a famous magician who literally disappeared off the face of the earth--and Tony's marvelous, long-lost workshop. Along the way, Stuart reluctantly accepts help from the annoying triplets next door and encounters trouble from another magician who is also desperate to get hold of Tony's treasures.

Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George

To her small Eskimo village, she is known as Miyax; to her friend in San Francisco, she is Julie. When the village is no longer safe for her, Miyax runs away. But she soon finds herself lost in the Alaskan wilderness, without food or even a compass to guide her.

The Hero's Guide to Saving Your Kingdom by Christopher Healy

Liam, Frederic, Duncan, and Gustav are the princes who saved Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Snow White, and Rapunzel, yet you likely know them only as Prince Charming. Rejected by their princesses and cast out of their castles, the princes stumble upon an evil plot that could endanger each of their kingdoms. Now it's up to them to take on trolls, bandits, dragons, witches, and other assorted terrors, and become the heroes no one ever thought they could be.

Red Scarf Girl by Ji-li Jiang

It's 1966, and twelve-year-old Ji-li Jiang has everything a girl could want: brains, tons of friends, and a bright future in Communist China. But it's also the year that China's leader, Mao Ze-dong, launches the Cultural Revolution—and Ji-li's world begins to fall apart. Over the next few years, people who were once her friends and neighbors turn on her and her family, forcing them to live in constant terror of arrest.

The Tail of Emily Windsnap by Liz Kessler

For as long as she can remember, twelve-year-old Emily Windsnap has lived on a boat. And, oddly enough, for just as long, her mother has seemed anxious to keep Emily away from the water. But when Mom finally agrees to let her take swimming lessons, Emily makes a startling discovery — about her own identity as well as about the mysterious father she's never met.

The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis

British schoolchildren Polly and Digory inadvertently tumble into the Wood Between the Worlds, where they meet the evil Queen Jadis and, ultimately, the great, mysterious King Aslan. We witness the birth of Narnia and discover the legendary source of all the adventures that are to follow in the seven books that comprise the series.

Circle of Secrets by Kimberley Griffiths Little

After not seeing her for some time, Shelby moves back into her mother's house, deep in the heart of the Louisiana bayou. Her new classmates tease and torment her, so Shelby is relieved to find a friend in Gwen, a mysterious girl who lives alone on the bayou. But Shelby can't help wondering if Gwen has something to do with the puzzling messages she finds hidden in the blue bottle tree behind her house.

The Lost Hero by Rick Riordan

Jason has a problem. He doesn't remember anything before waking up on a school bus holding hands with a girl. Apparently she's his girlfriend Piper, his best friend is a kid named Leo, and they're all students in the Wilderness School, a boarding school for "bad kids." It is not until he is whisked away to Camp Half-Blood that he discovers the extraordinary truth about his identity.

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson has ten days to find and return Zeus's stolen property, come to terms with the father who abandoned him, solve the riddle of the Oracle, and unravel a treachery more powerful than the gods themselves. After you have read this book, continue with the series!

The Key to Rondo by Emily Rodda

There are four rules to the music box that Leo Langlander inherits. Leo wouldn't dream of breaking these rules, but his cousin Mimi inadvertently uses it to free a sorceress and unlock a hidden world. Leo and Mimi must stop the witch and discover the secret of the music box before it is too late.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling

Have you watched the movie and never read the book? It's time to enter the magical world of Harry Potter. Join him as he begins his quest to protect the world from his arch nemesis, Lord Voldemort. If you have read this book and are at another point in the series, feel free to read the book appropriate for you.

Wringer by Jerry Spinelli

Nine-year-old Palmer dreads his upcoming 10th birthday. In his town, when boys are 10 years old they become "wringers," the boys who wring the necks of wounded pigeons at the annual Pigeon Day shoot. Palmer is sickened by the whole event. To make matters worse, his new buddies--Beans, Mutto, and Henry--have just discovered that Palmer has been hiding a pet pigeon in his room.

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia

Eleven-year-old Delphine and her sisters are sent to California to spend the summer with their mother, a poet involved in the Black Panther movement. Set during a tumultuous time in U.S. history, *One Crazy Summer* is the heartbreaking, funny tale of three girls in search of the mother who abandoned them years before.

Dealing with Dragons: The Enchanted Forest Chronicles, Book 1 by Patricia Wrede

Take one bored princess. Make her the seventh daughter in a very proper royal family. Have her run away. Add one powerful, dangerous dragon. Princess Cimorene has never met anyone like the dragon Kazul. But then, she's never met a witch, a jinn, a death-dealing talking bird, or a stone prince either. Princess Cimorene runs away to find some excitement. She finds plenty.

Loch by Paul Zindel

Sonar screens stalk the astonishing, massive water creatures that have been sighted in a remote Vermont lake. Fifteen-year-old Loch Perkins is aboard *The Revelation*, a high-tech search yacht, when the first creature explodes from the deep.