

# St. Theresa School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Summer Reading and Recitation List 2018



### Reading:

*Please choose and read at least one book each month of June and July, and the selected book for August. There will be a test or writing exercise on the August text when you come back to school in September. Don't forget to sign up for the Summer Reading Program at Palatine Public Library!*

### Select and read two (2) – one in June and one in July:

Title	Author	Lex	Summary
Across Five Aprils	Rawls, Wilson	1100	Jethro Creighton is nine when his close knit family learns that hostilities have broken out. As numerous male relatives go off to fight for the North and the South, and after his father falls ill, young Jethro takes responsibility for the family farm. With help from an older sister and neighboring farmers, he copes with attacks from local vigilantes, and he makes mature choices about a cousin who has deserted the army.
Adam of the Road	Gray, Elizabeth Janet	1030	Eleven-year-old Adam loved to travel throughout thirteenth century England with his father, a wandering minstrel, and his dog, Nick. But when Nick is stolen and his father disappears, Adam suddenly finds himself alone. He searches the same roads he traveled with his father, meeting various people along the way. But will Adam ever find his father and dog and end his desperate search?
American Tall Tales	Stoutenburg, Adrien		Eight exciting classic American Tall Tales! This collection includes the famed stories of Paul Bunyan, Pecos Bill, Stormalong, Mike Fink, Davy Crockett, Johnny Appleseed, John Henry, and Joe Magarac.
Black Beauty	Sewell, Anna	1010	Black Beauty tells the story of the horse's own long and varied life, from a well-born colt in a pleasant meadow to an elegant carriage horse for a gentleman to a painfully overworked cab horse. Throughout, Sewell rails--in a gentle, 19th-century way--against animal maltreatment.
Black Stallion, The	Farley, Walter	680	A young boy is shipwrecked on an island and must survive with the help of a wild and untamed horse.
Bridge to Terabithia	Paterson, Katherine	810	Two friends create an imaginary world that will shape their real lives more than they can know.
Bronze Bow, The	Speare, Elizabeth George	760	This gripping, action-packed novel tells the story of eighteen-year-old Daniel bar Jamin—a fierce, hot-headed young man bent on avenging his father's death by forcing the Romans from his land of Israel. Daniel's palpable hatred for Romans wanes only when he starts to hear the gentle lessons of the traveling carpenter, Jesus of Nazareth. A fast-paced, suspenseful, vividly wrought tale of friendship, loyalty, the idea of home, community . . . and ultimately, as Jesus says to Daniel on page 224: "Can't you see, Daniel, it is hate that is the enemy? Not men. Hate does not die with killing. It only springs up a hundredfold. The only thing stronger than hate is love."

Title	Author	Lex	Summary
Catherine, Called Birdy	Cushman, Karen	1170	Catherine, a spirited and inquisitive young woman of good family, narrates in diary form the story of her fourteenth year—the year 1290.
Chasing Vermeer	Balliet, Blue	770	This novel by Blue Balliett is about two sixth-grade students who become friends on a trip to a museum. When a famous painting is mysteriously stolen, the two friends go on an adventure to find it, piecing together clues left by the thief. Will they solve the puzzle and find the painting? Read the book to find out!
Cleopatra VII: Daughter of the Nile	Gregory, Kristiana	920	Established Dear America author Kristiana Gregory kicks off the Royal Diaries with the captivating story of young Cleopatra's tumultuous life. Daughter of King Ptolemy Autletes, Pharaoh of Egypt, Cleopatra lives a life filled with opulence and mystery.
Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two	Bruchac, Joseph	910	Throughout World War II, in the conflict fought against Japan, Navajo code talkers were a crucial part of the U.S. effort, sending messages back and forth in an unbreakable code that used their native language. They braved some of the heaviest fighting of the war, and with their code, they saved countless American lives. Yet their story remained classified for more than twenty years. But now Joseph Bruchac brings their stories to life for young adults through the riveting fictional tale of Ned Begay, a sixteen-year-old Navajo boy who becomes a code talker. His grueling journey is eye-opening and inspiring. This deeply affecting novel honors all of those young men, like Ned, who dared to serve, and it honors the culture and language of the Navajo Indians.
Daddy Long Legs	Webster, Jean	920	Daddy Long-Legs is a 1912 epistolary novel by the American writer Jean Webster. It follows the protagonist, a young girl named Jerusha "Judy" Abbott, through her college years. She writes the letters to her benefactor, a rich man whom she has never seen.
Dark is Rising	Cooper, Susan	920	On the Midwinter Day that is his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers a special gift -- that he is the last of the Old Ones, immortals dedicated to keeping the world from domination by the forces of evil, the Dark. At once, he is plunged into a quest for the six magical Signs that will one day aid the Old Ones in the final battle between the Dark and the Light. And for the twelve days of Christmas, while the Dark is rising, life for Will is full of wonder, terror, and delight.
Dealing with Dragons: The Enchanted Forest Chronicles, Book One	Wrede, Patricia C.	830	Meet Princess Cimorene--a princess who refuses to be proper. She is everything a princess is not supposed to be: headstrong, tomboyish smart... And bored. So bored that she runs away to live with a dragon. And not just any dragon, but Kazul--one of the most powerful and dangerous dragons arounds. Of course, Cimorene has a way of hooking up with dangerous characters, and soon she's coping with a witch, a jinn, a death-dealing talking bird, a stone prince, and some very oily wizards. If this princess ran away to find some excitement, it looks like she's found plenty! With a new look and new introduction from the author.
Detectives in Togas	Winterfeld, Henry	700	In these two delightful history-mysteries, seven boys in Ancient Rome solve strange crimes thanks to some help from their cranky teacher, a little bit of logic, and a lot of amusing misadventure.
Diary of Young Girl	Frank, Anne	1080	Still, what does that matter? I want to write, but more than that, I want to bring out all kinds of things that lie buried deep in my heart." Anne Frank The Diary of Anne Frank is the story

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Ginger Pye	Estes, Eleanor	990	of a 13 year-old Jewish girl and her family who are forced into hiding by the Nazis during World War II. Meet Ginger Pye, the smartest dog you'll ever know. Jerry Pye and his sister, Rachel, feel pretty smart themselves for buying Ginger. It was the best dollar they ever spent. Ginger steals everybody's heart . . . until someone steals him!
Heidi	Spyri, Johanna	530	At the age of five, little orphan Heidi is sent to live with her grandfather in the Alps. Everyone in the village is afraid of him, but Heidi is fascinated by his long beard and bushy grey eyebrows. She loves her life in the mountains, playing in the sunshine and growing up amongst the goats and birds. But one terrible day, Heidi is collected by her aunt and is made to live with a new family in town. Heidi can't bear to be away from her grandfather; can she find a way back up the mountain, where she belongs?
Hobbit, The	Tolkien, J.R.R.	1000	Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.
House of Sixty Fathers, The	DeJong, Meindert	820	Tien Pao is all alone in enemy territory. Only a few days before, his family had escaped from the Japanese army, fleeing downriver by boat. Then came the terrible rainstorm. Tien Pao was fast asleep in the little sampan when the boat broke loose from its moorings and drifted right back to the Japanese soldiers. With only his lucky pig for company, Tien Pao must begin a long and dangerous journey in search of his home and family.
Island of the Blue Dolphins	O'Dell, Scott	1000	This book is based on the true story of a woman who was left alone to live on San Nicolas Island off the coast of California.
Justin Morgan had a Horse	Henry, Marguerite	880	Joel Goss knows that Little Bub is a special colt, even though he's a runt. And when schoolteacher Justin Morgan asks Joel to break the colt in, Joel is thrilled! Soon word about Little Bub has spread throughout the entire Northeast -- this spirited colt can pull heavier loads than a pair of oxen. And run faster than thoroughbreds!
Lightning Thief, The	Riordan, Rick	740	Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school...again. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life.
Mango Shaped Space, A	Mass, Wendy	770	Mia Winchell has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person can see sounds, smell colors, or taste shapes. Forced to reveal her condition, she must look to herself to develop an understanding and appreciation of her gift in this coming-of-age novel.
Moffats, The	Estes, Eleanor	800	Meet the Moffats. There is Sylvie, the oldest, the cleverest, and-most days at least-the responsible one; Joey, who though only twelve is the man of the house...sometimes; Janey, who has a terrific upside-down way of looking at the world; and Rufus, who may be the littlest but always gets in the biggest trouble. Even the most ordinary Moffat day is packed with extraordinary fun. Only a Moffat could get locked in a bread box all afternoon, or dance with a dog in front of the whole town, or hitch a ride on a boxcar during kindergarten recess. And only a Moffat could turn mistakes and mischief into hilarious one-of-a-kind adventure.

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Many Moons	Thurber, James	790	A wise tale of a little princess who wanted the moon and got it.
Matilda	Dahl, Roald	840	Matilda is a sweet, exceptional young girl, but her parents think she's just a nuisance. She expects school to be different but there she has to face Miss Trunchbull, a kid-hating terror of a headmistress. When Matilda is attacked by the Trunchbull she suddenly discovers she has a remarkable power with which to fight back. It'll take a superhuman genius to give Miss Trunchbull what she deserves and Matilda may be just the one to do it!
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH	O'Brien, Robert C.	790	Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse with four small children, is faced with a terrible problem. She must move her family to their summer quarters immediately, or face almost certain death. But her youngest son, Timothy, lies ill with pneumonia and must not be moved. Fortunately, she encounters the rats of NIMH, an extraordinary breed of highly intelligent creatures, who come up with a brilliant solution to her dilemma. And Mrs. Frisby in turn renders them a great service.
Old Yeller	Gipson, Fred	910	The big, ugly, yellow dog showed up out of nowhere one night and stole a whole side of hanging pork, and when Travis went for him the next morning that dog started yelling like a baby before he was touched. Then he got into the spring water with five-year-old Arliss, Travis took an easy hate to Old Yeller, as they started to call him; in fact, he would have driven him off or killed him if it hadn't been for brother Arliss' loud and violent protests, So Yeller stayed, and Travis soon found he couldn't have got along without him.
Paul Bunyan of the Great Lakes	Newton, Stanley, D.		The story of Paul Bunyon, American legend.
Pippi Longstocking	Lindgren, Astrid	870	Tommy and his sister Annika have a new neighbor, and her name is Pippi Longstocking. She has crazy red pigtails, no parents to tell her what to do, a horse that lives on her porch, and a flair for the outrageous that seems to lead to one adventure after another!
Rhyme Schemer	Holt, K.A.		Kevin has a bad attitude. He has a real knack for rubbing people the wrong way. And he's even figured out a secret way to do it with poems. But what happens when the tables are turned and he is the one getting picked on? Using elements of subversive found poetry, <i>Rhyme Schemer</i> is an accessible novel in verse that is both touching and hilarious, and will inspire voracious and reluctant readers alike. It is a celebration of the power of words and their ability to transform lives.
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Taylor, Mildred D	920	Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, this is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. It is Cassie's story—Cassie Logan, an independent girl who discovers why having land of their own is so crucial to the Logan family, even as she learns to draw strength from her own sense of dignity and self-respect.

Title	Author	Lex	Summary
Root Cellar, The	Lunn, Janet	840	Rose finally has a place where she fits in - but she has to travel through time to get there! It looked like an ordinary root cellar, the kind of place where you'd store canned goods and winter vegetables. If twelve-year-old Rose hadn't been so unhappy in her new home, she probably never would have fled down the stairs to the dark cellar. And if she hadn't, she never would have climbed up into another century, the world of the 1860s, and the chaos of the Civil War. There she makes her first friends - and they desperately need her help!
Rules	Lord, Cynthia	780	Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public"---in order to head off David's embarrassing behaviors. But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a surprising, new sort-of friend, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?
Salamandastron	Curtis, Jacques	890	In the Redwall books you will find war, adventure, great friendships, humour, mystery, and lots of exciting action.
Shakespeare Stealer, The	Blackwood, Gary L	780	That's the order from his fearsome master. And fourteen-year-old Widge — a poor orphan with the rare ability to write a unique coded shorthand — has no choice but to follow orders. So Widge works his way into the Globe Theatre, where Shakespeare's troupe rehearses and performs. The players take him in and treat him as one of their own. Afraid to disappoint his master, but unwilling to betray his new friends, Widge is torn. Will he secretly copy down the lines? Until he decides, he must play the part of his life.
So B. It	Weeks, Sarah	860	A touching coming-of-age story about a young girl who goes on a cross-country journey to discover the truth about her parents, which the <i>New York Times</i> called "a remarkable novel." Perfect for fans of Rebecca Stead's <i>When You Reach Me</i> and Ali Benjamin's <i>The Thing About Jellyfish</i> . She doesn't know when her birthday is or who her father is. In fact, everything about Heidi and her mentally disabled mother's past is a mystery. When a strange word in her mother's vocabulary begins to haunt her, Heidi sets out on a cross-country journey in search of the secrets of her past. Far away from home, pieces of her puzzling history come together. But it isn't until she learns to accept not knowing that Heidi truly arrives.
Star Girl	Spinelli, Jerry	770	Stargirl. From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of "Stargirl, Stargirl." She captures Leo Borlock' s heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her. Stargirl is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal. In this celebration of nonconformity, Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli weaves a tense, emotional tale about the perils of popularity and the thrill and inspiration of first love.

Title	Author	Lex	Summary
Sounder	Armstrong, William H.	900	During the difficult years of the nineteenth century South, an African-American boy and his poor family rarely have enough to eat. Each night, the boy's father takes their dog, Sounder, out to look for food and the man grows more desperate by the day. When food suddenly appears on the table one morning, it seems like a blessing. But the sheriff and his deputies are not far behind. The ever-loyal Sounder remains determined to help the family he loves as hard times bear down on them.
Staircase, The	Rinaldi, Ann	590	How could Lizzy Enders's father abandon her at a girls school run by nuns? She's surrounded by Catholics--but she's Methodist! Shunned by the other boarders, Lizzy befriends a wandering carpenter named José, who with just three tools--and unflagging faith--builds an elaborate spiral staircase in the new chapel in mere weeks. When he disappears without a trace, Lizzy realizes that the way she sees things is not always the way they are. Inspired by the legend of the "miraculous" staircase in the Chapel of Loretto in Santa Fe, Ann Rinaldi skillfully blends the mystery surrounding the staircase's builder with the daily trials of a spunky thirteen-year-old girl growing up in the 1870s.
Swan Town: The Secret Journal of Susanna Shakespeare	Ortiz, Michael J.		Thirteen-year-old Susanna Shakespeare longs for something exciting to happen in her boring village of Stratford, England. Her father, Will, is always off in London, busily working on new plays, and Susanna yearns to be a part of that world. When Susanna's uncle gets himself in trouble with the Master of Revels, and Susanna is whisked off to London to help, the stage is set for adventure...and romance.
Thank You, Jackie Robinson	Cohen, Barbara	730	After Sam's father died, he became so wrapped up in the Brooklyn Dodgers that he could describe every game they'd played in the past four years. Nobody was very interested, until Sam met Davy. They came from different races, religions, and generations. But it didn't take long before they had a friendship that went well beyond baseball.
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle: A Spellbinding Tale of Intrigue and Murder on the High Seas	Avi	740	A young girl travelling to her new home on Rhode Island finds herself caught in a dangerous war between captain and crew.
Twenty and Ten	Bishop, Claire Huchet	630	This book tells the story of how twenty school children hid ten Jewish children from the Nazis occupying France during World War II.
Twenty-One Balloons, The	Dubois, William Pene	1070	Professor William Waterman Sherman intends to fly across the Pacific Ocean. But through a twist of fate, he lands on Krakatoa, and discovers a world of unimaginable wealth, eccentric inhabitants, and incredible balloon inventions
Understood Betsy	Fisher, Dorothy Canfield	1000	When Aunt Harriet becomes ill, nine-year-old Betsy is at first terrified to live with her country cousins in Vermont. After she arrives, however, Betsy learns how to cook, make friends, and think for herself. Eventually, she must make a choice between two.
Where the Red Fern Grows	Collier, James & Christopher	700	Billy has long dreamt of owning not one, but two, dogs. So when he's finally able to save up enough money for two pups to call his own—Old Dan and Little Ann—he's ecstatic. It doesn't matter that times are tough; together they'll roam the hills of the Ozarks.

Title	Author	Lex	Summary
Westing Game, The	Raskin, Ellen	750	A bizarre chain of events begins when sixteen unlikely people gather for the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. And though no one knows why the eccentric, game-loving millionaire has chosen a virtual stranger—and a possible murderer—to inherit his vast fortune, on things for sure: Sam Westing may be dead...but that won't stop him from playing one last game!
White Fang	London, Jack	970	Jack London follows the life of a magnificent wolf-dog in the Yukon wilderness. White Fang is part wolf, part dog, but for the early part of his life he doesn't know what he should be. Born in a cave, suffering from famine, he has been raised as a wolf, but feels conflicted as he gets to know the world of dogs — and humans.
White Water	Peterson, P.J.	650	Greg's rafting trip with his father turns into a life-and-death ordeal when Greg's father is bitten by a rattlesnake, and the boy must find a way to overcome his fear of the rapids and get his father to a doctor."

## Read in August:

Title	Author	Lex	Summary
Number the Stars	Lowry, Lois	670	As the German troops begin their campaign to "relocate" all the Jews of Denmark, Annemarie Johansen's family takes in Annemarie's best friend, Ellen Rosen, and conceals her as part of the family. Through the eyes of ten-year-old Annemarie, we watch as the Danish Resistance smuggles almost the entire Jewish population of Denmark, nearly seven thousand people, across the sea to Sweden. The heroism of an entire nation reminds us that there was pride and human decency in the world even during a time of terror and war.

## Recitation:

Please learn from memory one of the selected poems and the Memorare. You will be asked to recite both during the first week of school.

### Poems

#### Who Am I? by Carl Sandburg

My head knocks against the stars.  
My feet are on the hilltops.  
My finger-tips are in the valleys and shores of  
universal life.  
Down in the sounding foam of primal things I  
reach my hands and play with pebbles of  
destiny.  
I have been to hell and back many times.  
I know all about heaven, for I have talked with  
God.  
I dabble in the blood and guts of the terrible.  
I know the passionate seizure of beauty  
And the marvelous rebellion of man at all signs  
reading "Keep Off."

My name is Truth and I am the most elusive  
captive  
in the universe.

#### Trees by Joyce Kilmer

I THINK that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
  
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;  
  
A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;  
  
A tree that may in summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;  
  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

#### Hope is the Thing With Feathers by Emily Dickinson

"Hope" is the thing with feathers -  
That perches in the soul -  
And sings the tune without the words -  
And never stops - at all -  
  
And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -  
And sore must be the storm -  
That could abash the little Bird  
That kept so many warm -  
  
I've heard it in the chilliest land -  
And on the strangest Sea -  
Yet - never - in Extremity,  
It asked a crumb - of me.

### **I Hear America Singing by Walt Whitman**

I hear America singing, the varied carols I hear,  
Those of mechanics, each one singing his as it  
should be blithe and strong,  
The carpenter singing his as he measures his  
plank or beam,  
The mason singing his as he makes ready for  
work, or leaves off work,  
The boatman singing what belongs to him in his  
boat, the deckhand singing on the steamboat  
deck,  
The shoemaker singing as he sits on his bench,  
the hatter singing as he stands,  
The wood-cutter's song, the ploughboy's on his  
way in the morning, or at noon intermission or at  
sundown,  
The delicious singing of the mother, or of the  
young wife at work, or of the girl sewing or  
washing,  
Each singing what belongs to him or her and to  
none else,  
The day what belongs to the day — at night the  
party of young fellows, robust, friendly,  
Singing with open mouths their strong melodious  
songs.

### **PRAYER: Memorare by Saint Bernard of Clairvaux**

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that  
never was it known that anyone who fled to thy  
protection, implored thy help, or sought thy  
intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this  
confidence, we fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins,  
our Mother. To thee do we come, before thee we  
stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word  
Incarnate, despise not our petitions but in thy  
mercy hear and answer us. Amen.