

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART

SUMMER READING 2016



GRADES 5 & 6

A LETTER TO STUDENTS

Dear Middle School Students,

May has arrived and I'm excited for two reasons! First, it's time for the awesomely fun and spectacular Book Fair, where we get to browse and buy books! Secondly, it's getting close to summer...which means Summer Reading Time! In preparation for both of those events, I have prepared a reading list of titles that I have read recently that I thought you might enjoy, as well as some that I'm excited to read on the beach this summer. I have noted each book's genre, as well as whether it is an award winner and any alternate formats in which the book is available. Some, but not all, of these titles will be available at Book Fair along with other excellent titles.

I hope that you find a few great books that you are excited about reading this summer. I can't wait to hear all about your selections in the Fall!

Happy Reading!

Laura Lutz

Middle School Librarian
LLutz@cshnyc.org

Summer Reading Guidelines

- For those of you who read *twenty or more books*, there will be a special celebration in the fall.
- Please do your best to read *at least six books* this summer; at least three books should be from the summer reading list. Any required reading completed as part of your English assignment counts towards this number.
- Please use either the Summer Reading Log you find on the Library's website or a neatly written/typed page of your own to record your books. The lists, this letter, and the reading log will all be posted on the Middle School Library web page.
- Be sure to save your log, signed by both your parent/guardian, to turn in at the beginning of the new school year!

5th & 6th GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

- Anderson, Jodi Lynn. *My Diary from the Edge of the World*. New York: Aladdin, 2015.
 - Spirited, restless Gracie Lockwood of Cliffden, Maine, lives in a world where sasquatches, dragons, giants, and mermaids are common, and she keeps a diary of her family's journey in a used Winnebago as they seek The Extraordinary World in hopes of keeping her little brother, Sam, safe against all odds.
Available formats: Print, e-book. **Fantasy. Award Winner.**
- Appelt, Kathi, and Alison McGhee. *Maybe a Fox*. New York: Atheneum, 2016.
 - When her sister Sylvie goes missing and is never seen again, Jules refuses to believe she is gone forever; meanwhile, in the shadow world, a shadow fox is born who feels a connection to Jules. A heartbreaking but heartwarming tale of family, friendship, and our ties to the natural world.
Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic Fiction.**
- Beasley, Cassie. *Circus Mirandus*. New York: Dial, 2015.
 - When he realizes that his grandfather's stories of an enchanted circus are true, Micah Tuttle sets out to find the mysterious Circus Mirandus--and to use its magic to save his grandfather's life.
Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**
- Benjamin, Ali. *The Thing About Jellyfish*. New York: Little, Brown, 2015.
 - Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.
Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic Fiction. Award winner.**
- Busby, Cylin. *The Nine Lives of Jacob Tibbs*. New York: Knopf, 2016.
 - The story of a cat, Jacob Tibbs, runt of the litter, and his exploits on the high seas as a ship's mouser. A rollicking adventure with pirates, mutinies, and punishing storms!
Available formats: Print, e-book. **Historical Fiction.**
- Cervantes, Angela. *Allie, First at Last*. New York: Scholastic, 2016.
 - Born into a family of over-achievers, Allie Velasco has never finished first in anything, and lately things have been going badly: her science project is ruined by a well-meaning student, her former best friend is hanging out with another girl--but now she is determined to win the Trailblazer contest with a photographic presentation about her great grandfather.
Available formats: Print, e-book. **Realistic Fiction.**
- Chmakova, Svetlana. *Awkward*. New York: Yen Press, 2015.
 - After shunning Jaime, the school nerd, on her first day at a new middle school, Penelope Torres tries to blend in with her new friends in the art club, until the art club goes to war with the science club, of which Jaime is a member. Recommended for fans of *Smile* and *Roller Girl*.
Available format: Print only. **Graphic novel. Award winner.**
- Condie, Ally. *Summerlost*. New York: Dial, 2016.
 - Following the sudden deaths of her father and autistic younger brother, Cedar Lee spends the summer working at a Shakespearean theater festival, making a new friend, and coming to terms with her grief.
Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic Fiction.**
- DiCamillo, Kate. *Raymie Nightingale*. New York: Candlewick, 2016.
 - Hoping that if she wins a local beauty pageant her father will come home, Raymie practices twirling a baton and performing good deeds as she is drawn into an unlikely friendship with a drama queen and a saboteur.
Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic fiction.**

- Fox, Janet. *The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle*. New York: Viking, 2016.
 - In 1940, during the Blitz, Katherine, Robbie and Amelie Bateson are sent north to a private school in Rookskill Castle in Scotland, a brooding place, haunted by dark magic from the past--but when some of their classmates disappear Katherine has to find out if the cause is hidden in the past or very much in the present.
 Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Historical Fiction/Fantasy.**
- Goebel, Jenny. *Fortune Falls*. New York: Scholastic, 2016.
 - In Fortune Falls, a magical town where superstitions are real, and all children must pass regular "luck tests" to see if they are worthy, ill-fortuned Sadie has always been deemed as unlucky, and shunted aside for her luckier younger brother--but when she finds an unusually intelligent black cat named Jinx, her fortunes begin to change for the better.
 Available formats: Print, e-book. **Fantasy.**
- Hautala, Beth. *Waiting for Unicorns*. New York: Philomel, 2015.
 - After her mother dies, Talia McQuinn goes to the Arctic with her father, a whale researcher. Over the course of one summer, and through several unlikely friendships, Talia learns that stories have the power to connect us, to provide hope, and to pull us out of the darkness.
 Available formats: Print, e-book. **Realistic fiction. Award winner.**
- Helget, Nicole Lea. *Wonder at the Edge of the World*. New York: Little, Brown, 2015.
 - Lu Wonder, a bright, curious girl who hopes to be a scientist, sets out from her Kansas home in 1855 with her best friend Eustace, a slave, on a journey to Antarctica to protect a mysterious artifact and hide it from the man responsible for her father's death.
 Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Historical Fiction.**
- Howland, Leila. *The Forget-Me-Not Summer*. New York: Harper, 2015.
 - When their parents, a screenwriter and a film editor, go off on summer projects, Marigold, Zinnia, and Lily, must visit their Great Aunt Sunny in Cape Cod, where they learn much about themselves and each other and grow closer than ever. A must-read for fans of *The Penderwicks*.
 Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic fiction.**
- Huey, Lois Miner. *Forgotten Bones: Uncovering a Slave Cemetery*. New York: Millbrook, 2016.
 - Construction workers in Albany, New York, were surprised to dig up a skull...much less one that was more than one hundred years old! Follow the archaeological excavation of a long-lost slave cemetery and discover more about these forgotten bones.
 Available formats: Print, e-book. **Nonfiction.**
- Kelly, Erin Entrada. *Blackbird Fly*. New York: Greenwillow, 2015.
 - Bullied at school, Apple, a Filipino American who loves the music of the Beatles, decides to change her life by learning how to play the guitar.
 Available formats: Print, e-book. **Realistic fiction. Award Winner.**
- Khan, Joshua. *Shadow Magic*. New York: Disney-Hyperion, 2016.
 - Thorn, a boy sold into slavery who must serve the royalty of Castle Gloom for a year and a day to earn his freedom, and Lilith Shadow, the 13-year-old ruler of Gehenna, who is forbidden to practice the magic that is her heritage, join forces to solve the murders taking place in Gehenna.
 Available formats: Print, audio. **Fantasy.**
- Lawson, Jessica. *Nooks and Crannies*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2015.
 - Eleven-year-old Tabitha Crum, whose parents were just about to abandon her, is invited to the country estate of a wealthy countess along with five other children and told that one of them will become her heir. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* meets *Clue* in this exciting mystery!
 Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Mystery.**

- Parry, Rosanne. *The Turn of the Tide*. New York: Random House, 2016.
 - After a devastating tsunami in Japan, cousins Jet and Kai spend the summer together in Astoria, Oregon, training for the Young's Bay Treasure Island Race and become close friends in the process. Available formats: Print only. **Realistic Fiction.**
- Pennypacker, Sara. *Pax*. New York: Balzer+Bray, 2016.
 - After being forced to give up his pet fox Pax, a young boy named Peter decides to leave home and get his best friend back. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Adventure.**
- Rivers, Karen. *The Girl in the Well is Me*. New York: Algonquin, 2016.
 - Kammie reflects on her life as she fights claustrophobia while waiting to be rescued from a well she fell into while trying to impress some mean girls. Available formats: Print only. **Realistic Fiction.**
- Sands, Kevin. *The Blackthorn Key*. New York: Aladdin, 2015.
 - In 1665 London, Christopher, apprentice to an apothecary, and his best friend Tom try to uncover the truth behind a mysterious cult, following a trail of puzzles, codes, pranks, and danger toward an unearthly secret with the power to tear the world apart. For fans of *The Westing Game*. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Mystery/Fantasy. Award winner.**
- Saunders, Kate. *The Curse of the Chocolate Phoenix*. New York: Delacorte, 2015.
 - Sequel to *The Whizz Pop Chocolate Shop*. Twins Oz and Lily are on a top secret mission to stop Alba the witch, who is plotting to use a magical chocolate phoenix for evil purposes, and aided by an army of rats and an unreliable talking cat, they pursue her not only across London but through time itself. Available formats: Print, e-book. **Fantasy.**
- Sepahban, Lois. *Paper Wishes*. New York: FSG, 2016.
 - Near the start of World War II, young Manami, her parents, and Grandfather are evacuated from their home and sent to Manzanar, an ugly, dreary internment camp in the desert for Japanese-American citizens. Available formats: Print only. **Historical Fiction.**
- Yeh, Kat. *The Truth About Twinkie Pie*. New York: Little, Brown, 2015.
 - When GiGi and her big sister DiDi move to Long Island from South Carolina for GiGi to attend a fancy new private school, GiGi has a new recipe for success and makes new friends, but then discovers a family secret that turns her life upside-down. Delicious recipes included. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic Fiction. Award winner.**