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 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


   ○ Callum endeavors to fail the trials that would admit him to the magical Magisterium only to be drawn into its ranks against his will. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   ○ Faced with the difficulties of growing up, a girl talks over her problems with her own private God. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic Fiction. Award Winner.**

   ○ When her father remarries, Sarah Robinson’s new family takes a vacation to get to know each other by sailing for a few days near Fiji and things go horribly wrong. Available format: Print only. **Adventure.**

   ○ Gaby Ramirez Howard volunteers at the animal shelter and would like to adopt a cat but, with her mother deported to Honduras, Gaby has no home herself. Available formats: Print, e-book. **Realistic Fiction. Award winner.**

   ○ Gladys Gatsby loves food and cooking, so when she lands an assignment to write a restaurant review for a newspaper, she will do anything to make it happen. Available formats: Print, e-book. **Realistic Fiction.**

   ○ Marylin and Kate have been friends since nursery school, but when both girls begin to develop other interests, their relationship is put to the test. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic fiction.**

   ○ Dorrie and her brother Marcus accidentally open a portal to Petrarch’s Library, where they discover a secret society of warrior librarians who travel in time. Available formats: Print, e-book. **Fantasy.**

   ○ Three friends delve into the secret lore of their village when mysterious creatures of legend reappear, leading them to the notorious secret society, the Luck Uglies. Available formats: Print, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

    ○ Naomi, known as Chirp for her love of birds, gets help from her neighbor as she struggles to cope with her mother’s multiple sclerosis and its effect on her family. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Realistic fiction. Award winner.**

    ○ It’s a murder mystery on the moon in this humorous and suspenseful space adventure from the author of *Belly Up* and *Spy School*. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Science fiction/humor. Award winner.**
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>The author of <em>Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library</em> celebrates the power of imagination with this action-packed adventure that shows that sometimes the <em>real</em> story starts after you close the book! Available formats: Print, audio. <strong>Fantasy.</strong></td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Harrington, Karen</td>
<td><em>Courage for Beginners</em></td>
<td>LBYR</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mysti Murphy wishes she were a character in a book. If her life were fiction, she'd know how to solve all her problems! Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. <strong>Realistic fiction.</strong></td>
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<td>When Hailee’s family wins the lottery, her life changes in unexpected—and not always good—ways. Available format: Print only. <strong>Realistic fiction.</strong></td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Herrera, Robin</td>
<td><em>Hope is a Ferris Wheel</em></td>
<td>Abrams</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>After moving from Oregon to California, Star participates in a poetry club, where she learns some important lessons about herself and her own hopes for the future. Available formats: Print, e-book. <strong>Realistic fiction. Award winner.</strong></td>
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<td>Twig lives in Sidwell, where people whisper that fairy tales are real. And two hundred years ago, a witch placed a curse on Twig's family that was meant to last forever. But this summer, everything will change. It's time to break the spell. Available formats: Print, audio. <strong>Fantasy.</strong></td>
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<td>Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging, and consequently has turned into a teenager—which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her family. Available formats: Print, e-book. <strong>Fantasy. Award winner.</strong></td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Hopkinson, Deborah</td>
<td><em>Titanic: Voices from the Disaster</em></td>
<td>Scholastic, 2012</td>
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<td>Draws on stories from survivors and archival photographs to describe the history of the <em>Titanic</em> from its launch to its sinking. Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. <strong>Nonfiction. Award winner.</strong></td>
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<td>For fans of Raina Telgemeier’s <em>Smile</em>, a heartwarming graphic novel about friendship and surviving middle school through the power of roller derby. Available format: Print only. <strong>Graphic novel/realistic fiction.</strong></td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Kessler, Liz</td>
<td><em>A Year Without Autumn</em></td>
<td>Candlewick</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>Jenni’s much-anticipated vacation goes awry when an old elevator transports her to a future in which everything has changed. Available formats: Print, e-book. <strong>Fantasy.</strong></td>
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<td>Mai’s straight A’s and extracurricular activities have gotten her a much unwanted trip to Vietnam with her family so she can learn more about her roots. But as time goes on, Mai grows closer to her family and she begins to understand her culture. Available formats: Print, audio. <strong>Realistic fiction. Award winner.</strong></td>
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<td>Phoebe leads her group of friends in a daring escape from their orphanage to an uninhabited moon.</td>
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But their idyllic paradise is shattered when the powerful corporate boss who ordered the deaths of their parents sends a relentless henchman to track them down.

Available format: Print only. **Graphic novel/science fiction. Award winner.**

   - The Pickles are new to Midnight Gulch, Tennessee, a town which legend says was once magic—but Felicity is convinced the magic is still there and she hopes to bring the magic back.
   Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   - Lucy goes on a quest to find her missing father in a remote, magical territory in the Pacific Northwest.
   Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Fantasy.**

   - Struggling with Asperger's syndrome, Rose shares a bond with her beloved dog, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels.
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Realistic fiction. Award winner.**

   - In a society that purges thirteen-year-olds who are creative, identical twins Aaron and Alex are separated, one to attend University while the other, supposedly Eliminated, finds himself in a wondrous place where youths hone their abilities and learn magic.
   Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   - At Greenglass House, Milo plans to spend his winter holidays relaxing, but soon guests are arriving with strange stories about the house that send Milo and Meddy, the cook's daughter, on an adventure.
   Available formats: Print, e-book. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   - Spirited young Fer travels through the Way to a magical world in which beings part human and part animal serve an evil ruler known as the Lady.
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   - Will must find her way after she's plucked out of a wonderful life in Zimbabwe and forced to go to boarding school in England.

   - Fin, a master thief from the pirate world of Khaznot Quay, and Marrill, of Arizona, cross paths in the magical world of the Pirate Stream.
   Available formats: Print, e-book, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   - Lost in the Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and finds himself entwined in a prophecy—and decades later three children find themselves caught up in the same thread of destiny in the darkest days of the twentieth century.
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Fantasy.**

   - Captain Hook's swashbuckling daughter must avenge her infamous father's death at the jaws of the Neverland crocodile.
   Available format: Print only. **Fantasy.**

   - After her beloved father's death in 1977, tomboy Chip tries to fit in with her family of beauty
queens, making unlikely new friends at Miss Vernie's unusual charm school.
Available format: Print only. **Fantasy.**

   ○ A funny fairytale retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk that will appeal to fans of Adam Gidwitz’s *A Tale Dark and Grimm* and the movie *Into the Woods.*
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Fantasy.**

   ○ Enola Holmes, much younger sister of detective Sherlock Holmes, must travel to London in disguise to unravel the disappearance of her missing mother.

   ○ When her best friend is sent to live with a relative, Flor spends the summer on their isolated island making new friends and dealing with her family’s troubles.
   Available format: Print only. **Realistic fiction.**

   ○ A secret menagerie has been closely guarded by Zoe Kahn’s family, but six griffin cubs have just escaped. Recommended for fans of the *Fablehaven* series and *The Spiderwick Chronicles.*
   Available format: Print only. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   ○ Raina Telgemeier shares the story of her relationship with her younger sister.
   Available format: Print only. **Graphic novel/autobiography. Award winner.**

   ○ When Kara discovers her mother’s grimoire in the dangerous forest, she must decide if she’ll use it, even though such magic is forbidden.
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Fantasy. Award winner.**

   ○ The Gaither sisters are about to learn what it’s like to be fish out of water as they travel from the streets of Brooklyn to the rural South for the summer of a lifetime.
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Historical fiction.**

   ○ Spurred by a special project from her social studies teacher, Bethesda uncovers the secret identity of her music teacher.
   Available format: Print only. **Realistic fiction.**

   ○ The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career.
   Available formats: Print, audio. **Nonfiction. Award winner.**