

2009 Summer Reading List:

Incoming 6th Grade

You must read *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World...One Child at a Time* (Young Reader's Edition). **In addition**, you are encouraged to read at least 1 book from this list plus 1 more book of choice for a total of 3 books.

Mandatory Read

Mortenson, Greg, David Oliver Relin and Sarah Thomson.

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World... One Child at a Time.

In 1993, while climbing one of the world's most difficult peaks, Mortenson became lost and ill, and eventually found aid in the tiny Pakistani village of Korphe. He vowed to repay his generous hosts by building a school; his efforts have grown into the Central Asia Institute, which has since provided education for 25,000 children. *Retold for middle readers, the story remains inspirational and compelling. (Young Reader's Edition)*

Alcott, Louisa May. **Little Women.**

A classic story of family life inspired by the author and her sisters as they grew up.

Balliett, Blue. **The Calder Game** (Book 3).

When seventh-grader Calder Pillay disappears from a remote English village--along with an Alexander Calder sculpture to which he has felt strangely drawn--his friends Petra and Tommy fly from Chicago to help his father find him. **Series:** Chasing Vermeer (Book 1), The Wright 3 (Book 2).

Boyne, John. **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.**

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Cherry, Lynne., and Cary Braasch. **How We Know What We Know About our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming.**

Describes where scientists look to find evidence of climate change--from changes in bird migration patterns and fruit blossom dates, to obtaining tree rings and mud cores--and especially how students and other citizen-scientists are assisting to monitor climate change, as well as what can be done to mitigate global warming.

Gipson, Fred. **Old Yeller.**

About a Texas pioneer family in the 1860s and the big yellow stray dog that affects their lives.

Hiassen, Carl. **Scat.**

Nick and his friend Marta decide to investigate when a mysterious fire starts near a Florida wildlife preserve and an unpopular teacher goes missing.

Horvath, Polly. **Everything on a Waffle.**

Eleven-year-old Primrose recounts her experiences and all that she learns about human nature and the unpredictability of life in the months after her parents are lost at sea.

Ibbotson, Eva. **The Secret Platform 13.**

A young hag accompanies a wizard, a fey, and a giant ogre on their mission through a magical tunnel to rescue their Prince, who had been stolen as an infant. **(Any book by this author is also accepted)**

Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: A Novel in Cartoons.*

Greg records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive, but when Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship. **(Sequels accepted too)**

Klise, Kate. *Regarding the Sink*

This delightful, engaging, and truly unconventional mystery is told through letters, newspaper articles, telephone and interview transcripts, postcards, faxes, memos, and other "official" documents.

Korman, Gordon. *Schooled.*

After his hippie grandmother ends up in the hospital, Cap Anderson is forced to leave the commune where he is homeschooled and attend Claverage Middle School, where his odd looks and behavior make him the target of bullies.

Lombard, Jenny. *Drita, My Homegirl.*

When ten-year-old Drita and her family, refugees from Kosovo, move to New York, Drita is teased about not speaking English well, but after a popular student named Maxine is forced to learn about Kosovo as a punishment for teasing Drita, the two girls soon bond.

Lord, Cynthia. *Rules.*

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Edward's Eyes*

Edward is one of a large and close family that loves baseball, music, books, and each other, and when he unexpectedly dies and his parents donate his organs, his wonderful eyes go to a perfect recipient.

Morgenstern, Susie. *Secret Letters from 0 to 10.*

Ernest lives a boring existence until a lively girl named Victoria enters his class at school.

Olson, Tod. *How to Get Rich in the California Gold Rush: An Adventurer's Guide to the Fabulous Riches Discovered in 1848.*

The fictional Thomas Hartley gives readers a historical portrait of life in the California gold fields, offering a unique and witty snapshot of a key period in the economic development of the United States.

Oppel, Kenneth. *Darkwing.*

As the sun sets on the time of the dinosaurs, a new world is left in its wake. . . . Dusk. He alone can fly and see in the dark, in a colony where being different means being shunned-or worse. As the leader's son, he is protected, but does his future lie among his kin? Carnassial He has the true instincts of a predator, and he is determined that his kind will not only survive but will dominate the world of beasts. **(Series)**

Sandler, Martine W. *Trapped in Ice.*

Meticulously researched, this book tells the remarkable human saga of the entrapment and abandonment of an 1871 whaling fleet out of Massachusetts and their rescue from the icy Arctic waters without a single loss of life. Includes a glossary and index.

Springer, Nancy. **The Case of the Missing Marquess: An Enola Holmes Mystery.**

Enola Holmes, much younger sister of detective Sherlock Holmes, must travel to London in disguise to unravel the disappearance of her missing mother. **Series:** The Case of the Peculiar Pink Fan, The Case of the Left-Handed lady, The Case of the Bizarre Bouquets.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. **Treasure Island.**

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune.

Stewart, Paul & Chris Riddell. **Beyond the Deepwoods: The Edge Chronicles #1**

Young Twig lives in the Deepwoods, among the Woodtrolls, but he isn't one of them. In a brave attempt to find out where he belongs, Twig wanders into the mysterious, dangerous world beyond the Deepwoods. **Sequels:** Midnight Over Sanctaphrax, Stormchaser, Curse of the Gloamglozer, Vox, Last of the Sky Pirates, Clash of the Sky Galleons.

Yancey, Rick. **The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp**

Alfred Kropp was just trying to survive high school when his guardian uncle gets him roped into a suspicious get-rich-quick scheme that changes his life forever: stealing Excalibur—the legendary sword of King Arthur.

Sequel: Seal of Solomon.