

Welcome to Grade 6 English!

A large part of the 6th Grade English curriculum is based on the consistent practice of reading. Learning to read novels is among the many different types of reading you will be expected to do this year. In addition to various readings assigned in class to all students you will select 8 -10 books of your own choice. We ask you to be responsible for acquiring these books on your own as needed.

As residents of Westchester County, we are fortunate to have access to a fantastic library system <http://www.westchesterlibraries.org/>. All of the books we recommend for you are available through one of the 42 libraries in Westchester County. This leads you to your first task!

Step 1: Apply for **YOUR OWN** Westchester Library Card at the Bronxville Library. Bring your library card to class during the first week of school. This is your first homework assignment!

Step 2: Select **TWO library books** to read over the summer, one from the list below and a second book of your own selection. If the Bronxville Library does not have the book you need, ask about Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Service. The ILL Service will deliver books from other Westchester libraries right to Bronxville for you. The titles you select must be books you have not read before and should be of high interest to you. The books must match your reading ability. It is our intention to “get to know you” through the novels you select. If you need a suggestion, see the attached list. You will notice from this list that your 6th Grade English teachers enjoy many “classic” titles. You should only choose ONE of the books from the list. The second book **MUST** be YOUR choice.

Step 3: Read your books! When reading, think about (and take some notes!) why you selected the books and why the books are good choices for you as a reader. What matched your reading style? What things did not match your sensibilities? Look for a few specific quotes to support your reasoning. Be prepared to write your 6th Grade English teachers a letter in September explaining who you are as a reader and how one of the books was the right or wrong choice for you.

6th Grade Summer Reading Book List

Note to parents: The novels on this list range in reading level from 6th to 8th grade. Some of the titles on this list contain mature topics. Please preview the novels to help your child make their choices.

Yoshiko Ushido – *Journey Home*

Christopher Paul Curtis – *The Watsons go to Birmingham-1963*

Karen Hesse – *Letters From Rifka*

Joan Lowery Nixon - *A Family Apart*

Sharon Creech – *Walk Two Moons*

Esther Forbes – *Johnny Tremain*

Jack London – *Call of the Wild*

Frances Hodgson Burnett – *The Secret Garden*

Jean Craighead George – *My Side of the Mountain*

John Steinbeck – *The Red Pony*

Scott O'Dell – *Island of the Blue Dolphins*

Antoine de Saint-Exupery – *The Little Prince*

Lois Lowry – *The Giver*

Ursula K. LeGuin – *Wizard of Earthsea*

Ransom Riggs – *Miss. Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*

Marie Lu – *Legend*

Jeanne Du Prau – *City of Ember*

Anne Frank – *The Diary of a Young Girl*

Gary Paulson – *Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod*

Bethany Hamilton – *Soul Surfer*