

Students entering Grade 6

Welcome to Grade 6 and MYP! What an exciting new adventure this will be for you! As a part of your Language and Literature classes we would like you to read one book this summer. Of course, everyone is encouraged to read many books over the summer break as reading is a wonderful activity!

Please read one of these six books (or listen to the audio book). If you have read any of these books before, please choose one that is new to you! The six books are:

The Giver by Lois Lowry
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
Willow and Twig by Jean Little
The Peculiar by Stefan Bachmann
Echo by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Holes by Louis Sachar

When you return in August, you will be given an assignment based on the book you have chosen. You will be given class time to complete this assignment.

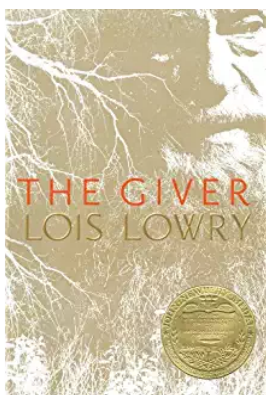
You may wish to purchase this book or check it out from the public library. There are also electronic and audio versions that are accessible via SORA. Alternatively, you may speak to Ms. Read who has many copies of each book available to borrow over the summer.

Please discuss your choice with your parents prior to reading your novel.

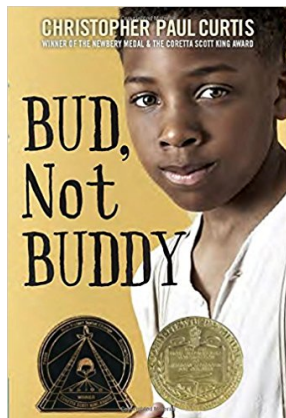
To be prepared for the assignment, you should use ACTIVE reading strategies. This means that you should make notes as you read. Make note of:

- Interesting vocabulary
- Connections: text-to-self, text-to-text or text-to-world
- Important quotations - maybe there are parts of the text that show foreshadowing or new understandings

Please look at the synopses (from Amazon and GoodReads) to help you in your choice of novel.

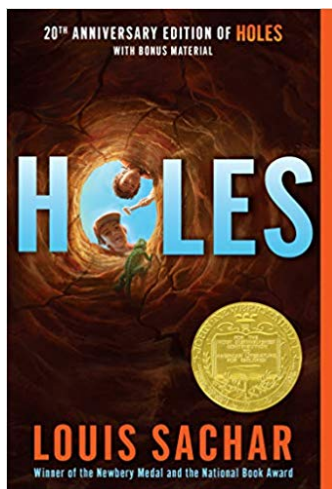


The Giver: In a world with no poverty, no crime, no sickness and no unemployment, and where every family is happy, 12-year-old Jonas is chosen to be the community's Receiver of Memories. Under the teaching of the Elders and an old man known as the Giver, he discovers the disturbing truth about his world and struggles against the weight of its hypocrisy. Gradually Jonas learns just how costly this ordered and pain-free society can be, and boldly decides he cannot pay the price.



Bud, Not Buddy - Guided only by a flier for one of Calloway's shows—a small, blue poster that had mysteriously upset his mother shortly before she died, Bud sets off to track down his supposed dad: a man he's never laid eyes on. Being only 10, Bud gets into all sorts of trouble along the way, barely escaping a monster-infested woodshed, stealing a vampire's car, and even getting tricked into "busting slob with a real live girl." Christopher Paul Curtis, once again exhibits his skill for capturing the language and feel of an era and creates an authentic, touching, often hilarious voice in little Bud.

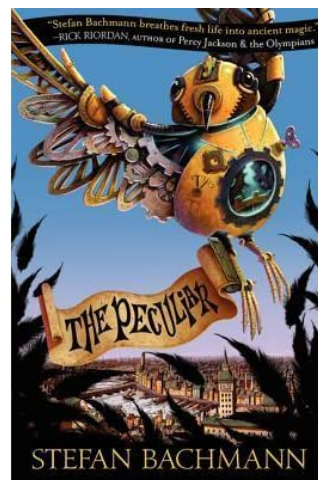
Willow and Twig - Ten-year-old Willow lives in Vancouver's East Side with her four-year-old brother Twig. They are in the care of their mother, since neither of their fathers have stuck around to raise them. When their mother breaks her parole and takes off, the two find themselves alone in the city. With no one left to look after them in the city where they were born, they are sent to live with Willow's grandmother, a writer, in her house called Stonecrop. From the rough streets of Vancouver, the children must adjust to a rural setting in Ontario, and the ways of their grandmother. The story of Willow and Twig is about learning to be proud of who you are and having the courage to find out where it is that you truly belong.



Holes - Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnats. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the warden makes the boys "build character" by spending all day, every day, digging holes: five feet wide and five feet deep. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption.

The Peculiar - Don't get yourself noticed and you won't get yourself hanged.

In the faery slums of Bath, Bartholomew Kettle and his sister Hettie live by these words. Bartholomew and Hettie are changelings--Peculiars--and neither faeries nor humans want anything to do with them.



One day a mysterious lady in a plum-colored dress comes gliding down Old Crow Alley. Bartholomew watches her through his window. Who is she? What does she want? And when Bartholomew witnesses the lady whisking away, in a whirling ring of feathers, the boy who lives across the alley--Bartholomew forgets the rules and gets himself noticed.

First he's noticed by the lady in plum herself, then by something darkly magical and mysterious, by Jack Box and the Raggedy Man, by the powerful Mr. Lickerish . . . and by Arthur Jelliby, a young man trying to slip through the world unnoticed, too, and who, against all odds, offers Bartholomew friendship and a way to belong.

Echo - Part murder mystery, part gothic fantasy, part steampunk adventure, The Peculiar is Stefan Bachmann's riveting, inventive, and unforgettable debut novel. An impassioned, uplifting, and virtuosic tour de force from a treasured storyteller!

Lost and alone in a forbidden forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica.

Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each, in turn, become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. And ultimately, pulled by the invisible thread of destiny, their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo.

Richly imagined and masterfully crafted, Echo pushes the boundaries of genre, form, and storytelling innovation to create a wholly original novel that will resound in your heart long after the last note has been struck.

