

Friends Academy □
2018 Middle School Summer Reading List
for students entering □
6th Grade

Challenge One

Students entering sixth grade are required to read one of the following:

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bud, Not Buddy*. □2000 Newbery Medal Winner.

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father, a renowned bandleader.

Hunt, Linda Mullally. *One for the Murphys* .

Carley has always kept her emotional walls high, but that changes when she becomes a foster child in the loving, bustling Murphy household. Here she learns to feel like she belongs until her mother wants her back. With this new future opening up for her, Carley has to decide where and how to live.

Challenge Two

In addition to Challenge One, students entering sixth grade are required to read any two books from the Challenge Two list.

For one of the Challenge Two books, you will complete a project, which will be handed in when you return to school in the fall. For the second Challenge Two book, you will be given a short writing assignment that will be completed in class during the second week of school. The topics will be given to you early in the summer so that you can take notes while your read. You will be allowed to use your notes during the in-class writing assignment.

Anderson, John David. *Ms. Bixby's Last Day*.

□Everyone knows there are different kinds of teachers. The boring ones, the mean ones, the ones who try too hard, the ones who stopped trying long ago. The ones you'll never remember, and the ones you want to forget. Ms. Bixby is none of these. She's the sort of teacher who makes you feel like school is somehow worthwhile. Who recognizes something in you that sometimes you don't even see in yourself. Who you never want to disappoint. What Ms. Bixby is, is one of a kind. Topher, Brand, and Steve know this better than anyone. And so when Ms. Bixby unexpectedly announces that she won't be

able to finish the school year, they come up with a risky plan—more of a quest, really—to give Ms. Bixby the last day she deserves.

Applegate, Katherine. *Home of the Brave*.

Kek comes from Africa where he lived with his mother, father, and brother. But only he and his mother have survived. Now she's missing, and Kek has been sent to a new home. In America, he sees snow for the first time, and feels its sting. He wonders if the people in this new place will be like the winter—cold and unkind. But slowly he makes friends: a girl in foster care, an old woman with a rundown farm, and a sweet, sad cow that reminds Kek of home. As he waits for word of his mother's fate, Kek weathers the tough Minnesota winter by finding warmth in his new friendships, strength in his memories, and belief in his new country.

Burnford, Sheila. *The Incredible Journey*.

□ Three house pets band together, facing starvation, wild animals and exposure while traveling through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Buyea, Rob. *Mr. Terupt* series.

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school.

Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.

Book 1: *Because of Mr. Terupt*

Book 2: *Mr. Terupt Falls Again*

Book 3: *Saving Mr. Terupt*

Dasher, James. The *Maze Runner* series.

Follow Mark, Trina, and Thomas as they struggle to solve the Maze and cross the Scorch, while having to rely on Gladers and fight off Cranks. If only they were so sure that they could trust Wicked as they mark their way through these trails.

Prequel: *Kill Order*

Book 1: *Maze Runner*

Book 2: *Scorch Trials*

Book 3: *Death Cure*

Frank, Steven B. *Armstrong and Charlie*.

Charlie isn't looking forward to sixth grade. If he starts sixth grade, chances are he'll finish it. And when he does, he'll grow older than the brother he recently lost. Armstrong isn't looking forward to sixth grade, either. When his parents sign him up for Opportunity

Busing to a white school in the Hollywood Hills, all he wants to know is "What time in the morning will my alarm clock have the *opportunity* to ring?" Set in Los Angeles in the 1970s, *Armstrong and Charlie* is the hilarious, heartwarming tale of two boys from opposite worlds, Different, yet the same.

Galante, Cecilia. *The World from Up Here*.

Wren Baker has never felt brave a day in her life. She doesn't even know what she's afraid of, really. Only that if she raises her voice or leaves her mark or ventures too far from home, she'll risk falling flat on her face. But that all changes when Wren's cousin, Silver, walks into her life. Silver is totally fearless. Maybe that's why she's the most popular girl in the sixth grade. She dares Wren to take risks, to live out loud, to finally spread her wings. And when Silver decides to undertake the journey of a lifetime, Wren is forced to make a decision: Is she in or is she out?

Harrington, Karen. *Mayday*□.

Wayne Kovok lives in a world of After. After his uncle in the army was killed overseas, Wayne and his mother survived a plane crash while coming back from the funeral. He then lost his voice. Wayne has always used his love of facts to communicate ("Did you know more people die each year from shaking a vending machine than from shark attacks?"). Without his voice, how will he wow the prettiest girl in school? How will he stand up to his drill-sergeant grandfather? And how will he share his hopes with his deadbeat dad? It's not until Wayne loses his voice completely that he realizes how much he *doesn't* say.

Hunter, Erin. *Warriors* series.

For generations, four Clans of wild cats have shared the forest according to the laws laid down by their ancestors. But now ThunderClan is in grave danger. Rival ShadowClan is growing stronger, a traitor may be hiding in their midst, and rising tensions threaten every cat in the forest.

In the dark days ahead, ThunderClan's fate will rest in the paws of an unexpected hero: an ordinary house cat named Rusty...who may yet turn out to be the bravest warrior of them all.

Book 1: *Into the Wild*

Book 2: *Fire and Ice*

Book 3: *Forest of Secrets*

Book 4: *Rising Storm*

Book 5: *A Dangerous Path*

Book 6: *The Darkest Hour*

Kelly, Erin Entrada. *Hello, Universe*. Newbery Medal 2017.

Newbery Medalist Erin Entrada Kelly's *Hello, Universe* is a funny and poignant neighborhood story about unexpected friendships.

Told from four intertwining points of view—two boys and two girls—the novel celebrates

bravery, being different, and finding your inner bayani (hero). “Readers will be instantly engrossed in this relatable neighborhood adventure and its eclectic cast of misfits.”—Booklist

Korman, Gordon. *The Hypnotists*.

□ Is it a gift . . . or is it a curse? Jax Opus can use his color-changing eyes to make people do things they don't want to do. (Only his color-blind best friend, Tommy, seems immune.) At first, Jax doesn't know what he's doing -- temporarily hypnotizing friends, foes, and strangers. But then his power pushes things way too far, and his secret isn't a secret any longer. □ Soon Jax finds himself meeting Dr. Elias Mako, who wants him to join a special institution that will teach him how to use his powers. But what will his powers be used for? That's the big question for Jax as his hypnotic abilities draw him into a conspiracy that will have him racing against time and a mysterious mastermind to save his best friend, his parents, and the entire United States.

London, Jack. *White Fang*.

□ Part dog and part wolf, White Fang relies on instincts to survive in the Yukon wilderness. He overcomes animal predators, and eventually makes his peace with man.

Mass, Wendy. *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life*.

□ Just before his thirteenth birthday, Jeremy Fink receives a keyless locked box, set aside by his father before his death five years earlier, that purportedly contains the meaning of life.

Mass, Wendy. *The Candymakers*. □

When four twelve-year-olds, including Logan, who has grown up never leaving his parents' Life Is Sweet candy factory, compete in the Confectionary Association's annual contest, they unexpectedly become friends and uncover secrets about themselves during the process.

Milford, Kate. *Greenglass House*. □

It's wintertime at Greenglass House. The creaky smuggler's inn is always quiet during this season, and twelve-year-old Milo, the innkeepers' adopted son, plans to spend his holidays relaxing. But on the first icy night of vacation, out of nowhere, the guest bell rings. Then rings again. And again. Soon Milo's home is bursting with odd, secretive guests, each one bearing a strange story that is somehow connected to the rambling old house. As objects go missing and tempers flare, Milo and Meddy, the cook's daughter, must decipher clues and untangle the web of deepening mysteries to discover the truth about Greenglass House—and themselves.

Myers, Walter Dean. *The Glory Field*.

□ Follow one African-American family's roots from slavery through present day, beginning with the capture of the founder of the family, Muhammad Bilal, in Sierra Leone. Read about Muhammad and his descendants from slavery to escape, through

the Civil War, the Great Depression, the Civil Rights Movement, and up to a family reunion in present day New York City.

Raskin, Ellen. *The Westing Game* .

1979 Newbery Medal Winner. The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must solve the mystery of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

Roth, Veronica. *The Divergent Trilogy*.

□Veronica Roth's #1 New York Times bestselling debut is a gripping dystopian tale of electrifying choices, powerful consequences, unexpected romance, and a deeply flawed "perfect society."

Book 1: *Divergent*

□Book 2: *Insurgent*

□Book 3: *Allegiant*

□Book 4 (Companion Volume): *Four: A Divergent Collection*

Standish, Ali. *The Ethan I Was Before*.

Ethan had been many things. He was always ready for adventure and always willing to accept a dare, especially from his best friend, Kacey. But that was before. Before the accident that took Kacey from him. Before his family moved from Boston to the small town of Palm Knot, Georgia.

Palm Knot may be tiny, but it's the home of possibility and second chances. It's also home to Coralee, a girl with a big personality and even bigger stories. Coralee may be just the friend Ethan needs, except Ethan isn't the only one with secrets. Coralee's are catching up with her, and what she's hiding might be putting both their lives at risk.

Stead, Rebecca. *When You Reach Me*. 2010 Newbery Medal Winner.

Twelve-year-old Miranda travels in her 1970s New York City neighborhood with ease. But her everyday life becomes harder to navigate as she tries to make sense of notes from an anonymous source who claims to want to save her life. There is a criss cross of reality and fantasy in this book that is similar to *A Wrinkle in Time*, Miranda's favorite book.

Turnage, Sheila. *Three Times Lucky*.

Rising sixth grader Miss Moses LoBeau lives in the small town of Tupelo Landing, NC, where everyone's business is fair game and no secret is sacred. She washed ashore in a hurricane eleven years ago, and she's been making waves ever since. Although Mo hopes someday to find her "upstream mother," she's found a home with the Colonel—a café owner with a forgotten past of his own—and Miss Lana, the fabulous café hostess. She will protect those she loves with every bit of her strong will and tough attitude. So when a lawman comes to town asking about a murder, Mo and her best friend, Dale

Earnhardt Johnson III, set out to uncover the truth in hopes of saving the only family Mo has ever known.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. *One Crazy Summer*. □Newbery Honor Book, National Book Award Finalist, and Coretta Scott King Award.

Eleven-year-old Delphine and her sisters Vonetta and Fern fly from their home in Brooklyn to Oakland, California to spend the summer with Cecile, their mother, who left them seven years earlier, and now must deal with their return to her life. It is 1968, and the girls are sent to a summer camp sponsored by the Black Panthers, where they learn many things from these radicals with their Afros and black berets.