

St. Agnes Cathedral School Library
SUGGESTED SUMMER READING - JUNE 2008 - GRADES 5 AND 6

Balliett, Blue **Chasing Vermeer**

When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

Barron, T.A. **The Merlin Effect**

When she joins her father and several others investigating a strange whirlpool and possible sunken treasure ship off the coast of Baja California, thirteen-year old Kate is drawn into a centuries'old conflict between Merlin and the evil vagor.

Barry, David and Pearson, Ridley **Peter and The Starcatcher**

Peter, an orphan boy and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep their secret safe. (Often seen as the prequel to Peter Pan). Continue flying with the sequel **Peter and the Shadow of Thieves**, followed by **Peter and The Secret of Rundoon**.

Benz, Derek **The Revenge of the Shadow King**

When Max Sumner and three friends play a magical card game called Round Table, they realize that it is up to them to prevent the wicked creatures of the cards from destroying their town, indeed their world. The adventure continues in the sequel **Black Wolf** and continues with **The Fall of The Templar**.

Buckley, Michael **The Sisters Grimm Series: The Fairy Tail Detectives Book One**

The first book in the Sisters Grimm series introduces two orphaned sisters, Sabrina and Daphne, who are sent to live with their mysterious grandmother. When they learn they are descendants of the Brothers Grimm, it becomes their job to keep the legacy in check. Read all The Sisters Grimm books.

Colfer, Eoin **Artemis Fowl**

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll. Read all the Artemis Fowl books!

Creech, Sharon **Granny Torelli Makes Soup**

With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

Forbes, Esther **Johnny Tremain**

An illustrated edition of the award-winning novel "Johnny Tremain" about a young boy who encounters many historical figures as he works as a horse boy for a local newspaper.

Freedman, Russell **The Voice That Challenged A Nation**

Tells the life story of singer Marian Anderson, describing her famous 1939 Lincoln Memorial performance and explaining how she helped end segregation in the American arts after being refused the right to perform at Washington's Constitution Hall because of the color of her skin.

Giff, Reilly, Patricia **Nory Ryan's Song**

When a terrible blight attacks Ireland's potato crop in 1845, twelve-year old Nory Ryan's courage and ingenuity helps her family and neighbors survive. If you don't want Nory's Story to end, make sure you read the sequel **Maggie's Door**.

Hannigan, Katherine **Ida B.**

In Wisconsin, fourth grader Ida B. spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.

Henkes, Kevin **Olive's Ocean**

On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother and on her plans to be a writer. (Newbery Honor Book 2003)

Hiaasen, Carl **Flush**

After his father is jailed for trying to sink a casino boat that's been dumping raw sewage into the Florida Keys, Noah sets out to catch the boat's owners himself. If you are an environmentalist, try **Hoot** as well!

SUMMER READING - GRADES 5 AND 6 CONTINUED - 2008

Holm, Jennifer **Penny from Heaven**

As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death. (Newbery Honor Book 2007). Also read **Our Only May Amelia**.

Jacques, Brian **Redwall**

When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which he is convinced, will help destroy the enemy. (A fast-paced fantasy novel) **Loamhedge** in this series is also good!

Kadohata, Cynthia **Kira-Kira**

Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950's and early 1960's, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill. (Newbery Award 2005) Try **Weedflower** and **Cracker** as well!

Korman, Gordon **Swindle**

When a clever collector named Swindle cons Griffin Bing out of a valuable baseball card, Griffin must create a scheme to get it back.

L'Engle, Madeline **A Wrinkle in Time**

Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government. (Newbery Medal Winner 1963)

London, Jack **The Call of the Wild**

The 1903 story about the adventures of Buck, a part St. Bernard, part Scotch shepherd, that is forcibly taken to the Klondike goldfields where he eventually becomes the leader of the wolf pack.

MacHale, D.J. **Pendragon Series**

Jump into this action-packed adventure with fourteen-year old Bobby Pendragon as he travels through time and space. Start with Book 1, **The Merchant of Death**.

McGraw, Eloise **The Golden Goblet**

In this historical fiction, an Egyptian boy struggles to reveal a hideous crime and reshapes his own destiny.

McMullan, Margaret **How I Found The Strong: A Civil War Story**

Frank Russell, known as Shanks, wishes he could have gone with his father and brother to fight for Mississippi and the Confederacy, but his experiences with the war and his changing relationship with the family slave, Buck, change his thinking.

O'Dell, Scott **Zia**

A young Indian girl, Zia, caught between the traditional world of her mother and the present world of the mission, is helped by her aunt Karana whose story was told in the **Island of The Blue Dolphins**.

Paulsen, Gary **Hatchet**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty four days in the wilderness learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother. (Newbery Honor Book 1988)

Raskin, Ellen **The Westing Game**

(A puzzle mystery) The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

Rinaldi, Ann **Nine Days A Queen: The Short Life and Reign of Lady Jane Grey**

Presents a fictional autobiography of Lady Jane Grey in which she tells the story of her life, from age nine to sixteen when she was executed after being queen of England for only nine days.

Selznick, Brian **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toymaker and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. (Caldecott Medal Honor 2008)

Stevenson, Robert Louis **Treasure Island**

This classic adventure tale of a young boy's search for buried treasure is as exciting now as when it was first published in 1881.