

2009 Summer Reading List - Trafton Academy Incoming Sixth Grade

Students entering the sixth grade are required to read The Lightning Thief, by Rick Riordan, this summer. There will be a writing assignment on the book when school begins, and each student will take the AR test for this book. Read as many books as possible from the list below during the summer. Students will be allowed to take AR tests for each book read.

Aiken, Joan. The Wolves of Willoughby Chase. Bonnie and her cousin Sylvia are left in the care of a cruel governess when Bonnie's parents go on a sea voyage. Besieged by wolves without and the terrible Miss Slighcarp within, how are they to reclaim Willoughby Chase?

Anderson, Laurie Halse. Fever, 1793. In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Avi. Bright Shadow. Set in a time of palaces, kings, wizards, and wishes, this is the story of twelve-year-old Morwenna. She accidentally becomes bearer of the last five wishes in the land. She can tell no one that the wishes are hers. If she uses them all, her life shall end. And she cannot wish for more. Find out how Morwenna solves this difficult situation.

Avi. Crispin: The Cross of Lead. Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger than life juggler who holds a dangerous secret. Newbery Medal winner.

Cleaver, Vera and Bill . Where the Lilies Bloom. Mary Call finds it difficult to keep the promise she made to her dying father to keep the family together on the mountain.

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.

Collier, James L and Christopher Collier. War Comes for Willy Freeman. A free thirteen-year-old girl in Connecticut is caught up in the horror of the Revolutionary War and the danger of being returned to slavery when her patriot father is killed and her mother disappears.

Cooper, Susan. King of Shadows. While preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theater in London, Nat suddenly finds himself transported back to the year 1599 and performing at the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.

Coville, Bruce. Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher. When Jeremy Thatcher buys a "dragon elf" at Mr. Elives's Magic Shop, he is shocked when an actual miniature dragon hatches from the egg and actually begins to grow and grow.

Creech, Sharon. Walk Two Moons. By drawing strength from her Native American ancestry, Salamanca is able to face the truth about her mother.

Crew, Linda. Children of the River. The story of a Cambodian refugee who fled from the Khmer Rouge when she was thirteen. In Oregon she is torn between the need to fit in at school and to be a "good Cambodian girl" at home.

Crossley-Holland, Kevin. The Seeing Stone, At the Crossing Places. In late twelfth century England, thirteen-year-old Arthur recounts how Merlin gives him a magical seeing stone, which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur, the events of whose life seem to have many parallels to his own.

Cushman, Karen. Matilda Bone. Fourteen-year-old Matilda, an apprentice bonesetter and practitioner of medicine in a medieval English village, tries to reconcile the various aspects of her life, both spiritual and practical.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. Dovey Coe. Accused of murder in her North Carolina mountain town in 1928, Dovey Coe, a strong willed twelve-year-old girl, comes to a new understanding of others, including her deaf brother, as she attempts to clear her name.

Fritz, Jean. Early Thunder. Daniel and his widowed father must choose to be either Tory or Whig as growing violence between the groups sets the stage for the Revolutionary War.

George, Jean Craighead. Who Really Killed Cock Robin? When the robin that has been nesting on the mayor's porch dies suddenly, eighth grader Tony Isidoro follows a trail of ecological clues - including fumes coming from the town dump- to find out what killed the robin.

George, Jean Craighead. Julie's Wolf Pack. The story of Julie's wolves continues as Kapu must protect his pack from the many dangers of the Arctic.

Holt, Kimberly Willis. Dancing in Cadillac Light. In 1968 eleven-year-old Jaynell's life in the town of Moon, Texas, is enlivened when her eccentric Grandpap comes to live with the family.

Horowitz, Anthony. Stormbreaker, Point Blank. When his uncle and legal guardian are mysteriously killed in a car crash, fourteen-year-old Alex sees his prep-school world overturned in an instant. Police explain in funeral voices that Ian Rider's death was the result of not wearing his seat belt, but that doesn't explain the fresh spray of bullet holes across the car's battered windshield. Finding out what really killed his uncle "and saving England" become young Alex's new life mission.

Ibbotson, Eva. Journey to the River Sea. Sent with her governess to live with the dreadful Carter family in exotic Brazil in 1910, Maia endures many hardships before fulfilling her dream of exploring the Amazon River.

Irwin, Hadley. The Original Freddie Ackerman. Twelve-year-old Trevor Frederick Ackerman refuses to spend another summer with his extended family of divorced parents, stepparents, and stepbrothers and stepsisters, so he is sent up to Maine to stay with two eccentric great aunts and there gets involved with some interesting people and an unexpected mystery.

Jiang, Ji-li. Red Scarf Girl. The true story of one family's courage and determination during the Cultural Revolution in China.

Jones, Diana Wynne. Dogsbody. The Dog Star, Sirius, is tried for murder by his heavenly peers and found guilty. His sentence: to be reborn on Earth as a dog until such time as he carries out the seemingly impossible mission imposed on him.

Kerr, Judith. When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit. A Jewish family forced to flee Germany in 1933 overcomes the difficulties of their refugee lives through their love and support for each other.

Konigsberg, E.L. The View from Saturday. Four students, sponsored by a paraplegic teacher, compete in an Academic Bowl competition. Newbery Medal winner.

Levine, Gale Carson. Dave at Night. When orphaned Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys where he is treated cruelly, he sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music and culture filled world of the Harlem Renaissance.

Lisle, Janet Taylor. The Art of Keeping Cool. In 1942 Robert and his cousin Elliott uncover long-hidden family secrets while staying in their grandparents' Rhode Island town, where they also become involved with a German artist who is suspected of being a spy.

Lynch, Chris. Gold Dust. In 1975 twelve-year-old Richard befriends Napoleon, a Caribbean newcomer to his Catholic school, hoping that Napoleon will learn to love baseball and the Red Sox.

Mah, Adeline Yen. Chinese Cinderella. The author returns to her roots to paint an authentic portrait of 20th century China as well as to tell the story of her painful childhood and her courage and ultimate triumph over despair.

Moody, Ralph. Little Britches. Experience the pleasures and perils of ranching in Colorado in the early 1900's through the eyes of the author, Ralph Moody. Auctions and roundups, family picnics, irrigation wars, tornadoes and wind storms give authentic color to Little Britches.

Myers, Walter Dean. At Her Majesty's Request. Biography of the African princess saved from execution and taken to England where Queen Victoria oversaw her upbringing and where she lived for a time before marrying an African missionary.

Nixon, Joan Lowery. The Trap. Sixteen-year-old Julie agrees to spend the summer at her great aunt and uncle's ranch in Texas, but she gets more than she bargained for when valuables suddenly start disappearing, and it seems there is a murderer in their midst.

Paulsen, Gary. Mr. Tucket. In 1848, while on a wagon train headed for Oregon, fourteen-year-old Francis Tucket is kidnapped by Pawnee Indians and then falls in with a one-armed trapper who teaches him how to live in the wild.

Reiss, Johanna. The Upstairs Room. This is a recollection of A Jewish child who was forced to hide from the Nazis in Holland during World War II.

Springer, Nancy. Rowan Hood: Outlaw Girl of Sherwood Forest. She has never met her father, the outlaw folks call Robin Hood. But with her mother murdered and no one to care for her, thirteen-year-old Rowan has no choice but to track him down. Disguised as a boy, she picks up a band of followers, including Lionel, the gentle giant, and Ettarde, the runaway princess.

Sutcliff, Rosemary. The Light Beyond the Forest: The Quest for the Holy Grail. In this retelling of the King Arthur legend, Sir Lancelot, Sir Galahad, Sir Bors, and Sir Percival search for the Holy Grail.

Temple, Frances. The Ramsay Scallop. At the turn of the fourteenth century in England, fourteen-year-old Elenor finds her betrothal to an ambitious lord's son launching her on a memorable pilgrimage to far off Spain.

Yolen, Jane. Devil's Arithmetic. Hannah is magically transported to the Holocaust during a 1988 Passover Seder.