

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel School
Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Recommended Summer Reading 2024
Fifth Grade Entering Sixth Grade**

REQUIRED READING - *The One and Only Ivan* by Katharine Applegate

Upon return to school, students should be prepared to complete a classroom activity that correlates with the required reading.

Read at least one of the books from the list below. Choose according to the first letter of your **LAST** name. Each student is required to complete a **Summer Reading Book Report** about this book. Open the link on the Summer Reading page, *Summer Reading Book Report Grade 5-8*, and print it out. Complete and bring the report to school with you on the first day.

Last Name: A - L

***The Clockwork Crow* by Catherine Fisher** Orphan Seren Rhys is on her way to a new life at the remote country mansion of Plas-y Fran when she is given a package by a stranger late at night in an empty train station. The package contains a crotchety, mechanical talking crow, which Seren reluctantly brings to her new home. But when she gets there, the happy Christmas she had hoped for turns out to be an illusion—the young son of the house, Tomos, has been missing for almost a year, rumored to have been taken by the fairies. ©2020 Grade Level 5-6

***Clues to the Universe* by Christina Li** The only thing Rosalind Ling Geraghty loves more than watching NASA launches with her dad is building rockets with him. When he dies unexpectedly, all Ro has left of him is an unfinished model rocket they had been working on together. Benjamin Burns doesn't like science, but he can't get enough of *Spacebound*, a popular comic book series. When he finds a sketch that suggests that his dad created the comics, he's thrilled. Too bad his dad walked out years ago, and Benji has no way to contact him. ©2021 Grade Level 6-7

***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein** Kyle Keeley is the class clown and a huge fan of all games—board games, word games, and particularly video games. His hero, Luigi Lemoncello, the most notorious and creative gamemaker in the world, just so happens to be the genius behind the construction of the new town library. Lucky Kyle wins a coveted spot as one of twelve kids invited for an overnight sleepover in the library, hosted by Mr. Lemoncello and riddled with lots and lots of games. But when morning comes, the doors stay locked. Vermont Golden Dome Book Award ©2013 Grade Level 5-7

***Greystone Secrets #2: The Deceivers* by Margaret Peterson Haddix** Until their mother vanished, the Greystone kids—Chess, Emma, and Finn—knew nothing about the other world. Everything is different there. It's a mirror image, except things are wrong. *Evil*. Their mother tried to fix it, but she and an ally got trapped there along with Ms. Morales, their friend Natalie's mom. Now the four kids—brave Chess, smart Emma, kind Finn, and savvy Natalie are determined to rescue everyone. ©2020 Grade Level 5-7

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***A Handful of Stars* by Cynthia Lord** When Lily's blind dog, Lucky, slips his collar and runs away across the wide-open blueberry barrens of eastern Maine, it's Salma Santiago who manages to catch him. ©2017 Grade Level 5-7

***A Kind of Spark* by Elle McNicoll** Ever since Ms. Murphy told us about the witch trials that happened centuries ago right here in Juniper, I can't stop thinking about them. Those people weren't magic. They were like me. Different like me. I'm autistic. I see things that others do not. I hear sounds that they can ignore. And sometimes I feel things all at once. ©2021 Grade Level 5-7

***The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams* by Daniel Nayeri** This is the tale of an exciting journey along the Silk Road with a young Monk and his newfound guardian, Samir, a larger than life character and the so-called "Seller of Dreams". The man is a scammer; his biggest skill being the ability to talk his way into getting what he wants. Newbery Honor Award ©2023 Grade Level 6-7

***The Mysterious Disappearance of Aidan S. (as told to his brother)* by David Levithan** Aidan disappeared for six days. Six agonizing days of searches and police and questions and constant vigils. Then, just as suddenly as he vanished, Aidan reappears. Where has he been? The story he tells is simply. . . impossible. But it's the story Aidan is sticking to. His brother, Lucas, wants to believe him. But Lucas is aware of what other people, including their parents, are saying: that Aidan is making it all up to disguise the fact that he ran away. ©2021 Grade Level 6-7

***The Star That Always Stays* by Anna Rose Johnson** Growing up on Beaver Island, Grand-père told Norvia stories—stories about her ancestor Migizi, about Biboonke-o-nini the Wintermaker, about the Crane Clan and the Reindeer Clan. He sang her songs in the old language, and her grandmothers taught her to make story quilts and maple candy. On the island, Norvia was *proud* of her Ojibwe heritage. NPR Best Book of the Year ©2022 Grade Level 6-7

***Stay* by Bobbie Pyron** Piper's life is turned upside down when her family moves into a shelter in a whole new city. She misses her house, her friends, and her privacy—and she *hates* being labeled the homeless girl at her new school. ©2019 Grade Level 6-7

Last Name: M - Z

***Simon Sort of Says* by Erin Bow** Simon O'Keeffe's biggest claim to fame should be the time his dad accidentally gave a squirrel a holy sacrament. Or maybe the alpaca disaster that went viral on YouTube. But the story the whole world wants to tell about Simon is the one he'd do anything to forget: the one starring Simon as a famous survivor of gun violence at school. Newbery Honor Award Schneider Family Book Award Honor ©2023 Grade Level 6-7

***They Threw Us Away: The Teddies Saga* by Daniel Kraus** Buddy wakes up in the middle of a garbage dump, filled with a certain awareness: he's a teddy bear; he spent time at a Store waiting for his future to begin; and he is meant for the loving arms of a child. Now he knows one more thing: Something has gone terribly wrong. ©2020 Grade Level 6-7

***The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez* by Adrianna Cuevas** All Nestor Lopez wants is to live in one place for more than a few months and have dinner with his dad. When he and his mother

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move to a new town to live with his grandmother after his dad’s latest deployment, Nestor plans to lay low. He *definitely* doesn’t want anyone to find out his deepest secret: that he can talk to animals. Pura Belpré Honor Book ©2020 Grade Level 6-7

***The Unexpected Life of Oliver Cromwell Pitts* by Avi** Oliver is left on his own after a terrible storm hits his English community in 1724. High adventure and near disasters meet Oliver as he tries to make his way to London to find his sister, Charity. Once in London and reunited with Charity, life does not calm down. Avi leaves readers hanging—will they survive? ©2017 Grade Level 6-8

***The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City* by Jodi Kendall** Josie Shilling’s family is too big, their cramped city house is too small, and she feels like no one’s ever on her side. Then, on Thanksgiving Day, her older brother, Tom, brings home a pink, squirmy bundle wrapped in an old football jersey—a piglet he rescued from a nearby farm. Her name is Hamlet. ©2018 Grade Level 6-7

***The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown** Though Roz, a robot, is initially viewed with suspicion when she finds herself on an isolated island, she soon becomes part of the natural order, parenting an orphaned gosling and providing shelter for the animals. But is there really a place for her within this ecosystem? ©2016 Grade Level 5-7

***The Windeby Puzzle: History and Story* by Lois Lowry** Estrild is not like the other girls in her village; she wants to be a warrior. Varick, the orphan boy who helps her train in spite of his twisted back, also stands apart. In a world where differences are poorly tolerated, just how much danger are they in? ©2023 Grade Level 6-7

***A Wish in the Dark* by Christina Soontornvat** All light in Chattana is created by one man — the Governor, who appeared after the Great Fire to bring peace and order to the city. For Pong, who was born in Namwon Prison, the magical lights represent freedom, and he dreams of the day he will be able to walk among them. But when Pong escapes from prison, he realizes that the world outside is no fairer than the one behind bars. The wealthy dine and dance under bright orb light, while the poor toil away in darkness. Worst of all, Pong’s prison tattoo marks him as a fugitive who can never be truly free. Newbery Honor Book ©2020 Grade Level 6-7

***Word of Mouse* by James Patterson** What makes Isaiah so unique? First, his fur is as blue as the sky--which until recently was something he'd never seen but had read all about. That's right--Isaiah can read and write. ©2016 Grade Level 5-7