Chichester Middle School
Summer Reading List
for students entering Grade 6

This is OPTIONAL assignment-
You may choose a book on this list or any book on your reading level

Grade Level Key
The first number is the grade and the second number is the month.
EX - 5.8 = 5th grade, eight months into the school year (this is very close to 6th grade)

MYSTERY / SUSPENSE / ADVENTURE

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen (Grade Level = 5.8)
New to Florida, middle-schooler Roy Everhardt finds himself on a mission to track down a shoeless boy. Roy joins the boy’s cause to save the burrowing owls in this quick-witted adventure.

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli (Grade Level = 5.4)
Not every boy becomes a legend in his own time. That's what happened to Maniac Magee, who earned his nickname by doing brave and foolish things, like running away from an unloving home, living in the zoo, and bringing people closer.

Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz (Grade Level = 5.4)
Soon after the death of his uncle, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is pulled into the dangerous world of espionage as he races against time to stop a tycoon from releasing a deadly virus to thousands of British schoolchildren. (If you enjoy this book, check out Point Blank, the second book in the Alex Rider Adventures by Anthony Horowitz!)

Coraline by Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean (Grade Level = 5.2)
Coraline ventures through a door in her home into a strange and frightening world. Overcoming her fears, she must outwit the evil other mother to free herself, her parents, and the souls of three children.

FAMILY / DRAMA / HUMOR

Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Grade Level = 5.7)
Marty's deception in secretly keeping a beagle pup that he knows belongs to a cruel owner causes him heartache and trouble as one lie leads to another. A near tragedy reveals his secret and brings Marty face-to-face with the owner.

The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson (Grade Level = 6.2)
A rebellious and unmanageable foster child learns the true meaning of love and family.
**Millicent Min, Girl Genius** by Lisa Yee (Grade Level = 5.5)

In a series of journal entries, 11-year-old prodigy Millicent records her struggles to learn to play volleyball, tutor her enemy, deal with her grandmother’s departure, and make friends over the course of a tumultuous summer.

**Flipped** by Wendelin Van Draanen (Grade Level = 5.5)

The first time Juli and Bruce met in second grade, she was smitten, but he ran the other way. Now, six years later, the tables are turned. This is a humorous tale, told in alternating voices, of teens in transition.

**Because of Anya** by Mary Peterson Haddix (Grade Level = 4.5)

While 10-year-old Anya faces the difficulties of losing her hair due to a life-altering disease, her classmate Keely learns how to stand up for what she knows is right. This is a wonderful story of finding yourself and of courage.

**The Man in the Ceiling** by Jules Feiffer (Grade Level = 5.7)

Although he is not very good at sports or his schoolwork, Jimmy can draw and dreams of being a great cartoonist. That dream seems within reach when star athlete Charley Beemer suggests they create comics together.

**SPORTS**

**Travel Team** by Mike Lupica (Grade Level = 6.0)

When 12-year-old Danny Walker is cut from the basketball travel team, he is crushed. How can he be too short to follow in his father’s footsteps? Danny and his pals have a plan. Will forming their own team get the respect they deserve?

**Six Innings** by James Preller

Two teams, six innings, one Little League game. With acrobatic catches, clutch hits, dramatic whiffs, and costly errors, this game is full of action. But as the book unfolds, pitch by pitch, a deeper story emerges, with far more at stake: a friendship is put to the test, and this baseball diamond becomes the ultimate testing ground of Sam and Mike’s remarkable friendship, as they strive to find a way to both come out winners.

**HISTORICAL FICTION**

**Jackie and Me - A Baseball Card Adventure** by Dan Gutman (Grade Level = 4.8)

With his ability to travel through time by using baseball cards, Joe is bound for Brooklyn to meet Jackie Robinson, the man who single-handedly broke "the color barrier" in the major leagues. What Joe can't predict is that his journey will alter his view of history -- and his definition of courage. (Be sure to check out other books in the Baseball Card Adventure Series!)

**The Watson’s go to Birmingham–1963** by Christopher Paul Curtis (Reading Level = 5.5)
The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African-American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma Sands in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

**NON-FICTION / BIOGRAPHY**

*Undying Glory* by Clinton Cox (Grade Level = 6.5)
They came from 22 states. They were farmers, engineers, students, boatmen, barbers, and stonecutters, and made up the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts, that fought courageously as Union soldiers to free their brothers and sisters from slavery.

*Ryan White, My Own Story* by Ryan White
Ryan White dies of AIDS at the age of 18, in 1990. He became world famous, when the city of Kokomo, Indiana tried to prevent him from going to school. Readers will experience Ryan’s often strong, sometimes hurting, always faith-filled voice in this book, which tells the story of his life.

*Knots in my Yo-Yo String* by Jerry Spinelli (Grade Level = 5.4)
Newberry Award-winning author Jerry Spinelli didn’t like to read books. Instead, he was a rock skipper, snowball thrower, yo-yo tangler, salamander finder, and aspiring professional shortstop. In this early memoir, Spinelli reveals a loving childhood filled with humor and drama.

**SCIENCE FICTION / FANTASY**

*The Transall Saga* by Gary Paulsen (Grade Level = 5.6)
Mark’s solo camping trip in the desert turns into a terrifying and thrilling adventure when a mysterious beam of light transports him into another time on what appears to be another planet.

*When the Tripods Came* by John Christopher (Grade Level = 5.8)
While they pretend to want peace, aliens that have come to Earth actually have other plans in mind in this prequel to the Tripods Trilogy.
NAME: ____________________________________________________

NOVEL ONE PAGER - Fill this out as you read the book.

Directions:
Top left: Draw a picture to represent the setting

Top right: Who is the main character? What is the theme of the story? What is the lesson we can learn from this book?

Bottom left: What is the title of the book?

Bottom right: Connect the theme to the world today

Bottom box: Write a key/important quote from the text.