

CENTRAL TREE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Rutland, MA 01543

June 2010

Dear Parents of Incoming Sixth Graders:

In keeping with the district's philosophy of encouraging students to become lifelong learners, the language arts teachers here at Central Tree Middle School request that all students entering sixth grade in the fall take part in summer reading. The purpose of the summer reading assignment is two-fold. First of all, one of the best ways for a child to work on improving reading skills is to read, read, read - not only when in school, but independently as well. Summer is an important time for your child to do that. Secondly, having the students find authors and genres of books that appeal to them will be an important step in helping them to enjoy reading. Through the summer reading assignment, your child will be able to do just that, hopefully both through the books he or she chooses *and* through the ones which classmates recommend when we return to school in the fall.

Attached is a list of authors. Your child should read two books this summer that are written by the authors on this list (both books do *not* have to be by the same author). The choices should be ones that both **challenge** and **interest** your child and that he or she has **not previously read**. When finished reading the two books, he or she should choose his or her favorite one and write a clear and well-organized response to it. The review should include the title and author and three reasons he or she liked it, using relevant and specific details from the book to illustrate and support the reasons.

Upon returning to school, your child will be asked to share his or her book response, and the response will be credited toward his or her grade. Hopefully, with many recommendations of favorites from fellow students, all students will be well on their way to reading many books they'll enjoy next year!

SIXTH GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

Suggested list of authors

Lloyd Alexander	Andrew Clements	John Flanagan
Avi	Eoin Colfer	Jean Fritz
Natalie Babbitt*	Susan Cooper	Jean Craighead-George
Lynne Reid Banks	Sharon Creech	Patricia Reilly-Griff
John Bellairs	Paula Danziger	Virginia Hamilton
Judy Blume	Franklin W. Dixon	Daniel Handler
Annie Bryant	Diane Duane	Jane Harrington
Betsy Byars	Lois Duncan	Herge
Lewis Carroll	Nancy Farmer	James Herriot

Karen Hesse
Carl Hiaasen
Will Hobbs
Erin Hunter
Brian Jacques
Carolyn Keene
Jackie French Koller
E. L. Konigsburg
Gail Carson Levine
Madeleine L'Engle
C. S. Lewis
Jack London
Lois Lowry
Ben Mikaelson

Walter Dean Myers
Joan Lowry Nixon
Scott O'Dell
Linda Sue Parks
Katherine Paterson
Gary Paulsen
Robert Newton Peck
Ellen Raskin
Rick Riordan
J. K. Rowling
Louis Sachar
Angie Sage
Robert Kimmel Smith
Jerry Spinelli

R. Conrad Stein
Jonathan Stroud
Zilpha Snyder
Mildred Taylor
Theodore Taylor
J. R. Tolkien
John R. Tunis
Mark Twain
Gloria Whelan
Laura Ingalls Wilder
Betty Ren Wright
Jane Yolen

***EXCEPT:** Natalie Babbitt – Tuck Everlasting

GRADE 6 SUPPLIES

We expect you, as sixth graders, to continue to develop good organizational and study skills. You are expected to have a basic set of organizational tools and materials to carry from class to class.

A collegiate dictionary and thesaurus should be purchased as they are beneficial for home use. If the SchoolKidz Kit was not purchased, your child will need the following materials: **(See Attached)**

Do not purchase a daily assignment notebook as all sixth graders will be issued a daily assignment book which they will be required to use for all classes. (If lost, a replacement fee will be charged.)

Students are required to have these materials with them on the first day of school and ***every day*** throughout the school year. All teachers will expect students to come to class prepared and willing to explore all subjects and ideas in a positive manner. This is made possible only through your daily study and review.

We look forward to seeing you in September and hope the attached information will prepare you for the fall.

Sincerely,

Sixth Grade Team