

June 2025



Dear Parents and 2025-2026 6th Graders,

Welcome to Marie Murphy! The sixth-grade team is looking forward to a wonderful school year. To start off sixth grade on the right foot, **we are assigning two readings for the summer.** During the first week of sixth grade, students will be asked to demonstrate their knowledge of the two books they chose to read during the summer choices below. Therefore, students should read their books towards the end of the summer.

1. For English Language Arts class, all incoming sixth graders should read **one book** from the [2026 Rebecca Caudill](#) list **before the first day of school.** (The Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award is awarded to the author of the book voted most outstanding by students in grades 4-8 in Illinois.) Descriptions of each book can be found in [this linked presentation](#).
2. For Social Studies class, all incoming sixth graders should read **one** of the following books:
 - *Brave* by Svetlana Chmakova
 - *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
 - *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
 - *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia C Perez

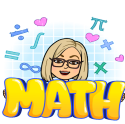
*Descriptions of each of the social studies book options can be found in [this linked presentation](#).

Where to find these books:

1. Purchase books from: The Book Stall, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or other bookstores.
 2. Borrow books from: your public library
- Many of the local libraries offer these books in ebook or audiobook format as well.

If you have any questions, please let us know. We look forward to a very successful 2025-2026 school year.

Sincerely,

 Gail Brown 6 th Grade English	 Rachel Hernandez 6 th Grade Social Studies	 Jennifer Rachmiel 6 th Grade Math
 Stephanie Rosenbaum 6 th Grade Resource	 David Pollak 6 th Grade Science	 Carrie Stotz Library Media Specialist