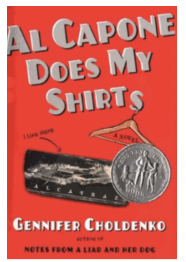
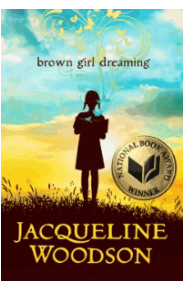


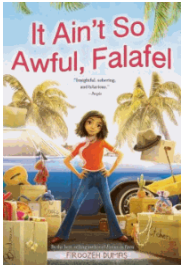
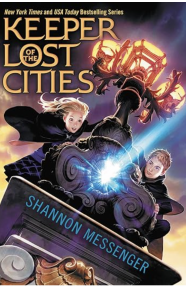
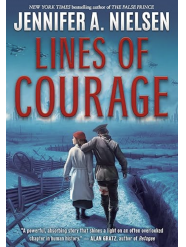
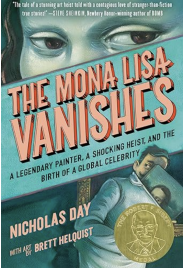
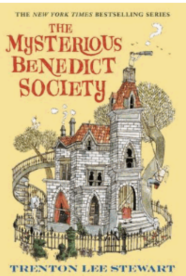
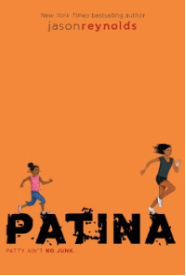
6th Grade Summer Reading List

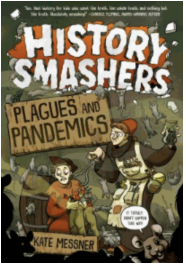
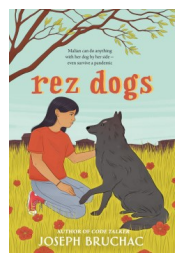
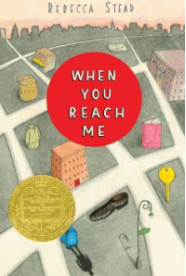
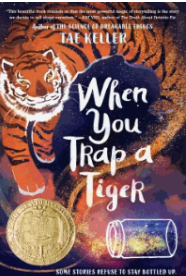
We believe summer reading creates life-long learners, prevents summer brain drain, makes you smarter, makes you kinder, and helps you grow a love of reading.

Over the summer, you are required to read THREE books (more would be fantastic):

1. Read **ONE** book of your choosing from the list below close to the start of school. You will need to bring it to school next year. We will remind you in the fall.
2. Read **TWO** or more challenging books of your choice. You can read these at any time during the summer. If you need ideas:
 - choose from the list below
 - choose from [2025 SFUSD Recommended Summer Reading](#)
 - choose from [Common Sense Media](#)
 - or choose a challenging book on your own!
3. Enter all three of these books on the [40 Book Challenge Tracker](#), which you will share with **hkim@townschool.com** before the first day of class.

	<i>The Academy (SERIES)</i> by T.Z. Layton (Realistic Sports)	Twelve-year-old Leo K. Doyle, a small-town soccer star who's never left home, gets the chance of a lifetime: a tryout with the world-famous London Dragons youth squad. Thrust into elite competition with 200 top players from around the world, Leo must battle self-doubt, tough rivals, and high-pressure challenges. By summer's end, he'll grow as a player and a person—but will it be enough to make the team? For fans of soccer!
	<i>Al Capone Does My Shirts (SERIES)</i> by Gennifer Choldenko (Historical Fiction)	A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister. For fans of One for the Murphys, The War That Saved My Life, and Esperanza Rising.
	<i>Blended</i> by Sharon M. Draper (Realistic Fiction)	Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police. For fans of Piecing Me Together, Ghost, and Out of My Mind.
	<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jacqueline Woodson (Memoir/Novel in Verse) eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. For fans of The Crossover, Inside Out and Back Again, and One Crazy Summer.

	<i>It Ain't So Awful, Falafel</i> by Firoozeh Dumas (Historical Fiction) eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	Zomorod Yousefzadeh, now going by Cindy, is starting over for the fourth time—this time in 1970s Newport Beach. Just as she tries to fit in, news from Iran sparks rising anti-Iranian tensions, making it harder than ever to feel at home. For fans of <i>Inside Out</i> and <i>Back Again, Save Me a Seat</i>, and <i>Amina's Voice</i>.
	<i>Keeper of the Lost Cities (SERIES)</i> by Shannon Messenger (Fantasy Fiction) eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	Twelve-year-old Sophie discovers the abilities that have always caused her to stand out are because she is actually an elf and, after she is brought to Eternalia where she can hone her skills, Sophie learns she harbors certain secrets that others would kill to learn. For fans of <i>Harry Potter</i>, <i>Percy Jackson</i>, and <i>Wings of Fire</i>.
	<i>Lines of Courage</i> by Jennifer A. Nielsen eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	From the assassination that triggers World War I in 1914 to Armistice Day in 1918, the story follows the fates of five young people on both sides of the conflict—each facing their portion of the war with courage, until the end of the war brings them together. Includes information on the history of the war. For fans of <i>Refugee</i>, <i>The War That Saved My Life</i>, and <i>Grenade</i>.
	<i>The Mona Lisa Vanishes</i> by Nicholas Day (Nonfiction) eBook available through Sora (audiobook here). Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	The Mona Lisa Vanishes tells the exciting true story of how the world's most famous painting was stolen from the Louvre in 1911—and why that theft made it so famous. From Leonardo da Vinci in Renaissance Italy to detectives in early 1900s Paris, this book is filled with art, mystery, and amazing real-life characters. For fans of <i>Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales</i>, <i>History Smashers</i>, and <i>Who Was?</i> biographies.
	<i>The Mysterious Benedict Society (SERIES)</i> by Trent Lee Stewart (Adventure Fiction) eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. For fans of <i>A Series of Unfortunate Events</i>, <i>Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library</i>, and <i>Artemis Fowl</i>.
	<i>Patina (PART OF THE TRACK SERIES)</i> by Jason Reynolds (Realistic Fiction) eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	Patty Jones, the fastest girl on the Defenders track team, struggles with anger after finishing second in a race. Her coach assigns her to the relay team, but she feels out of place at her rich academy and at home, where she and her sister now live with their aunt and uncle. For fans of <i>Ghost</i>, <i>Sunny</i>, and <i>Roller Girl</i>.

	Plagues and Pandemics (HISTORY SMASHERS SERIES) by Kate Messner (Nonfiction)	Think you know the truth about history's pandemics? Think again! History Smashers: Plagues and Pandemics busts myths about everything from the Black Death to COVID-19 with surprising facts, fun illustrations, and graphic panels. For fans of <i>I Survived</i> and <i>Hazardous Tales</i>.
	Rez Dogs by Joseph Bruchac (Realistic Fiction)	Malian, a Wabanaki girl, is stuck with her grandparents on the rez during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bored at first, her life changes when she spots a rez dog outside, just as she dreamed. When the dog adopts the family as its protector, Malian names him Malsum, the old name for a wolf. For fans of <i>Front Desk</i>, <i>The Penderwicks</i>, and <i>Ghost</i>.
	Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky (SERIES) by Kwame Mbalia (Fantasy Fiction) eBook available through Sora (audiobook here). Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	Seventh-grader Tristan Strong tumbles into the MidPass and, with allies John Henry and Brer Rabbit, must entice the god Anansi to come out of hiding and seal the hole Tristan accidentally ripped in the sky. For fans of <i>Percy Jackson</i>, <i>Amari and the Night Brothers</i>, and <i>The Storm Runner</i>.
	The Unwanteds (SERIES) by Lisa McMann (Fantasy Fiction)	In a world where creative kids are labeled Unwanted and sent to die, 13-year-old Alex is shocked to discover a secret magical haven instead. As he trains in spellcasting through the arts, tensions rise with his twin brother, a Wanted—setting the stage for a powerful clash between creativity and control. For fans of <i>Harry Potter</i>, <i>The Hunger Games</i>, and <i>Keeper of the Lost Cities</i>.
	When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead (Mystery Fiction) eBook available through Sora (audiobook here). Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. For fans of <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>, <i>The Westing Game</i>, and <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>.
	When You Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller (Fantasy Fiction) Audio eBook available through Sora. Choose Town School and students sign in using their Town Google account.	Lily is happy when she, her mom, and sister, Sam, move, because it means they will spend more time with their grandmother, their halmoni, whose life is full of magic. Halmoni has always told beautiful stories about clever sisters and equally clever tigers—not to be trusted—but Lily soon finds that life is not how she expected it to be. For fans of <i>Amina's Voice</i>, <i>The Wild Robot</i>, and <i>The Night Diary</i>.