

Dear Future St. T's Leaders,

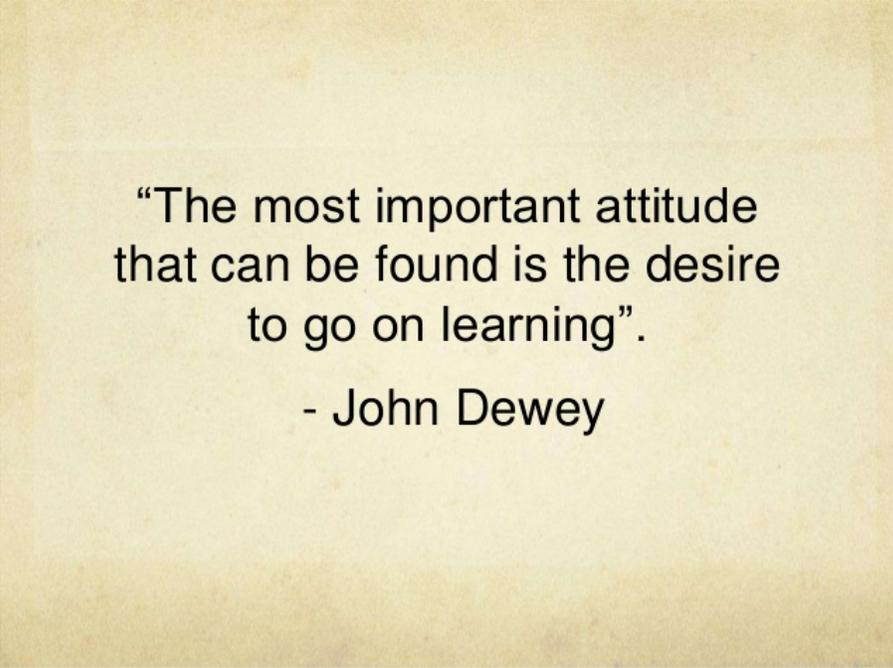
I am so excited to welcome you to 6th grade! We are going to have an amazing year full of adventures, challenges, learning, and growth. I can't wait to experience it with you, and see just what we can accomplish together when we put our minds to it. Sixth grade is a year of leadership, independence, responsibility and, of course, fun! You will spend time reflecting on your time at St. T's and planning for your future beyond this wonderful school.

We will continue to focus on learning from mistakes, and being our best selves. Sixth grade is about making goals. While you have some down time this summer, think about your goals for next year and beyond. How will you work towards your goals? How do you handle obstacles? Do you ask yourself, "What do I need to learn in order to overcome this? How can I apply this feedback to my work? How can I persevere through this challenge?" These are the kind of questions that can shape the way you think about your skills and abilities, help you do YOUR best and achieve your goals. I can't wait to watch you tackle new challenges, practice new skills, and make new friends as you prepare to spread your wings and fly!

Included in this packet is all the information you need to have a great summer full of learning. The goal is to keep your mind sharp, and be ready to tackle 6th grade when you return in September. Please do your best to complete the assignments in this packet. Wherever your summer may take you, it's easy to throw a book and notebook in your bag! Be ready to share your summer learning when you return to school in September. Keep your body active, your brain thinking, and your heart focused on making the world a better place.

See you soon!

Mrs. Vasseur



"The most important attitude  
that can be found is the desire  
to go on learning".

- John Dewey

# Summer Reading Entering 6th Grade

## St. Thomas's Day School



At St. Thomas's Day School, we seek to make children life-long readers by nurturing an early interest in books and by encouraging recreational reading. We strive to instill confidence so that the children become independent readers who love literature. This includes building good habits and teaching the children the importance of reading every single day. We believe that children need opportunities to discuss, reflect, listen to, and question texts from a variety of genres.

**We think we can, so we can.**

### Summer Reading Goals

- Promote life-long reading habits.
- Foster reading as a shared experience that includes reading aloud to and with your child.
- Broaden children's interests and stimulate their imaginations.
- Engage in meaningful discussions about books.
- Discover different viewpoints and literary genres.
- Build vocabulary, enhance fluency, and deepen understanding.

### Reading Matters!

- Children who read often, read better.
- Reading exercises our brains and improves concentration.
- Reading teaches children about the world around them.
- Reading improves vocabulary and develops a child's imagination.
- Reading helps kids develop empathy.
- Children who engage in the reading process perform better academically.
- Reading is entertaining and stretches the mind.

### Recommendations

- Read a series your child reads. Have a discussion to compare and contrast the books.
- Help your child find books on a skill he/she would like to learn.
- Go to a book signing with your child.
- Read an article on a topic of interest with your child.
- Create a book challenge for your child.
- Leave a poem a day on your child's pillow.
- Have your child sign a digital book out of the library.
- Listen to an audio book.  
[www.audiobooks.com](http://www.audiobooks.com)

**Be Sure to READ! READ! READ!**

**Summer Math**  
**Entering 6th Grade**

# St. Thomas's Day School



**Summers are wonderful. Never forget your summers. Stuart Little**

St. Thomas's Day School believes that summer is a wonderful time for children to engage in fun-filled math activities and real-world math experiences. Math is inherent in almost all summer experiences—trips, ball games, sports, board games, trading cards, puzzles, camps and cooking. It is everywhere! The enclosed list includes family-oriented activities that aim to maintain math facility in a fun and interesting way while reinforcing the intrinsic value that your family places upon mathematical development. The activities are recommended, but not required. The goal is for you to have fun with your child.

## Summer Math Goals

- Develop an understanding about how math pertains to the real world.
- Promote life-long learning habits.
- Foster math as a shared experience between parent and child.
- Broaden children's interests and stimulate their imaginations.
- Engage in meaningful conversations about math.
- Prepare children for the future.
- Promote critical thinking and problem solving abilities.
- Have fun!

## Math Matters!

- Children who practice math frequently, understand the world around them better.
- Math is a language that describes the ideas that make up our world.
- Math activities can promote critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Math is the foundation for many sciences and for music.
- Math is interesting and can stimulate your mind.
- Mathematics is woven throughout almost everything we do.
- The process of learning math boosts your brain power.

## Recommendations

- Ask your child to triple a recipe for you.
- Ask your child to create word problems using a catalog.
- Have your child calculate how long it will take to travel to a location if you drive 55mph.
- Allow your child to plan out the menu for a meal, figuring out which items are needed and how much of each item is required.
- Do a science experiment with your child.
- Design and build a toy car with your child using items from around the house.
- Ask your child to calculate how much money is required to pay the cable bill for a year.

**MATHEMATICS Is Fun!**

**Summer Math Activities**  
**St. Thomas's Day School - Entering Sixth Grade**

Please select one of the following projects to complete over the summer. Think of a creative way to present your work (i.e. poster, chart graph, flipbook, slideshow etc.). Be prepared to share your project in class on the first day of school. **These activities may be completed with an adult.**

**Paint Your Bedroom**

Your parents have decided to help you paint your bedroom during the summer break. They have asked you to research how much it will cost to paint two coats of paint on your bedroom walls and ceilings.

- Visit a local hardware store online (with adult supervision), or in your local community, and select the colors that you would like to paint your bedroom walls and ceilings.
- Measure the perimeter of your bedroom. Using the dimensions of the room, calculate the area of the ceiling.
- Draw a floor plan of your bedroom and mark the dimensions clearly.
- Measure and calculate the area of each wall in your bedroom.
- Determine how much area one can of paint will cover (you can usually find this information on the can).
- Calculate the number of cans of paint you will need to purchase, the cost of the paint, the cost of any other supplies you think you may need (e.g. paint brushes, tape), and the total cost to paint the ceiling and walls of your bedroom with two coats of paint.

**A Bake Sale**

You have decided to hold a Bake Sale with a friend to raise money for charity. Your goal is to raise between \$140.00- \$150.00 selling two different types of muffins. A local supermarket has kindly agreed to donate all the ingredients you will need.

- Decide how much you will charge per muffin. Select a price that is more than 75¢ but less than one dollar. Based on this price how many muffins will you need to sell to reach your fundraising goal?
- Use the internet (with adult supervision), cookbooks or family recipes to research and select two different muffin recipes that have at least three fractions in the ingredient list. Calculate how many batches of each type of muffin you will need to bake.
- Write out the two original recipes.
- Calculate how much of each ingredient you will need for the number of muffins you will bake. Make a list of the ingredients you will need.
- Determine how long it will take to bake all the batches of muffins. Show what times you will begin baking and what time you will end.
- Create a 2-column table with the following headings: a) Fraction of Muffins Sold, b) Amount Raised.
- Calculate how much money you will raise if you sell  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{8}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{5}{8}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , of all of the muffins you bake and include this data in your table.

### **Split the Bill**

You visit a new restaurant for dinner with three of your friends. After a delicious meal the waiter hands you the guest check so that you can split the bill equally with your friends.

- Decide on the type of restaurant you will visit. Create a menu that shows the price for five different drinks, entrees, side dishes and desserts. Include the following:
  - All drink prices end in either 0 or 5.
  - All entrée prices end in an odd number.
  - All side dishes end in an even number.
  - All dessert prices end in 9.
- Create a guest check that shows what each person ordered, the cost of each item and the total cost of the meal.
- Split the bill equally with your friends. How much money does each person need to pay?

### **Longest Bridges in the World**

Research some of the world's longest bridges and compare their lengths. Round all measurements to the nearest whole number.

Requirements:

- Use the library or internet (with adult supervision) to research the names of 4-5 of the longest bridges in the world and mark their locations on a map.
- Record the year each bridge was constructed and three other interesting facts about it.
- How many vehicles use each bridge per day on average? List the bridges in order from least to most traffic per day.
- Create a bar graph to compare the lengths of the bridges. Be sure to include a title, use appropriate scale, and label each axis.
- Create a table in which you show the length of each bridge in centimeters, meters, and kilometers or in feet, yards, and miles.

**Summer Assignments - Entering Sixth Grade**  
**St. Thomas's Day School**

**I. Summer Reading Assignments**

Please complete the following reading and writing activities before the first day of school. Bring your materials with you on the first day.

**Assignment #1 – ISEE/ SSAT Prep**

In preparation for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and for the entrance exams that most independent schools require, select an ISEE/ SSAT review book to work on during the summer. STTS recommends *Cracking the SSAT & ISEE, 2019 Edition* by Princeton Review, but you can choose the one that works best for you. Start by taking one of the practice exams to determine which skills you need to work on. Then complete the practice activities for those areas. If there is time, go back to review the remaining sections.

\* Please note that even if you are not planning to take an entrance exam, the review will help you strengthen your 5<sup>th</sup> Grade skills and get ready for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade.

**Assignment #2 - Nutmeg Book Response**

- Select a Nutmeg book to read from the 2020 Nutmeg Book Nominees section of the **Summer Reading List - Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade** (attached).

- Write or type a book response about the book you chose. Be sure to answer 2 of the following:

1. Write about a memorable or important event in the book. Explain what happened, and why this was memorable or important.
2. Write about a significant connection you made while reading the book. Were you reminded of a personal experience, another book, or someone you know? Explain.
3. Write about a character in the book. Was this someone you learned something from, admired, could relate to, or found interesting in some way? Explain.
4. Write about an important quote you noticed in the book. Which character said it and what was the context? Explain what the quote means in your own words and tell why it is meaningful to you.

- Be prepared to participate in a Nutmeg book discussion when school begins.

\* Please be sure to include the title and author of the book you read at the beginning of your journal entry.

## II. Summer Math Assignments

### Assignment #1 IXL

Please spend time reviewing the math skills that were taught in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade using IXL, an interactive math website ([www.IXL.com](http://www.IXL.com)). The website covers a variety of topics and provides review and practice of basic math skills. Although the site recommends membership participation, students can practice 20 problems a day without membership. If you like the program, memberships are reasonably priced and will record student progress over time. Over the course of the summer, please try to work in each of the following areas:

- Number Sense and Operations
- Algebraic Thinking
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Graphing and Probability

You may keep track of your progress on a sheet of paper, recording what you did and when.

### Assignment #2 Math Project

Please select one project to complete from the **Summer Math Activities (Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade)** list (attached). Complete the project and think of a creative way to present your work (i.e. poster, chart graph, flip book, slideshow etc.). Be prepared to share your project in class on the first day of school. These activities may be completed with an adult.

\* For those of you who would like additional practice in the area of mathematics, Tri-C Publication, Inc. offers a **Summer Math Skills Sharpener** workbook. The book contains about thirty, 2-page lessons of mixed review with an answer key and can be ordered at <http://www.summerskills.com/books/summer-math-skills-sharpener-1>. When ordering, please keep in mind that the summer skills book for the grade just completed is appropriate for most students.

# St. Thomas's Day School

## Fantasy

- *Anpao- An American Indian Odyssey* by Jamake Highwater
- *The Boggart* by Susan Cooper
- *The Chronicles of Prydain (series)* by Lloyd Alexander
- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau
- *The Dark is Rising Sequence* by Susan Cooper
- *Dealing With Dragons* by Patricia C. Wrede
- *Entwined* by Heather Dixon
- *The Gammage Cup* by Carol Kendall
- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- *The Glass Slipper* by Eleanor Farjeon
- *Gregor the Overlander* by Suzanne Collins
- *Juniper* by Monica Furlong
- *The Little Lame Prince* by Dinah Maria Muloch Craik
- *The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl* by Virginia Hamilton
- *Once Upon a Marigold* by Jean Ferris
- *The Ordinary Princess* by M.M. Kaye
- *The Owl Service* by Alan Garner
- *Perloo the Bold* by Avi
- *The Rajah's Rice* by Dave Barry
- *The Reluctant Dragon* by Kenneth Graham
- *A String in the Harp* by Nancy Bond
- *When the Tripods Came* by John Christopher

# Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Historical Fiction

- *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray
- *Carry on, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham
- *Catherine Called Birdie* by Karen Cushman
- *Danny the Champion of the World* by Roald Dahl
- *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes
- *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman
- *North to Freedom* by Anne Holm
- *Rifles for Watie* by Harold V. Keith
- *Souder* by William H. Armstrong
- *Secret of the Andies* by Ann Nolan Clark
- *The Slave Dancer* by Paula Fox
- *Strawberry Girl* by Lois Lenski
- *The Trumpeter of Krakaw* by Eric P. Kelly
- *Twenty and Ten* by Claire Huchet Bishop
- *Underground Man* by Milton Meltzer
- *The Voyage of Patience Goodspeed* by Heather Vogel Frederick
- *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *Woodlawn* by Carol Ryrie Brink
- *Wrapped* by Jennifer Bradbury
- *The Year of Miss Agnes* by Kirkpatrick Hill

# Summer Reading List

## Biography/Autobiography

- *Annie and Helen* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Eugene Debs: Rebel, Labor Leader, Prophet* by Dabid F. Selvin
- *Franklin DeLano Roosevelt* by Russell Freedman
- *Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women* by Catherine Thimmesh and Melissa Sweet
- *Hand in Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America* by Andrea Davis Pinkney
- *Invincible Louisa* by Cornelia Meigs
- *The Kidnapped Prince- The Life of Olaudah* by Olaudah Equiano, adapted by Ann Cameron
- *They Led the Way* by Johanna Johnston
- *The Road From Home* by David Kherdian
- *Rosa Parks: My Story* by Rosa Parks with Jim Haskins
- *So Young to Die: The Story of Hannah Senesh* by Candice F. Ransom
- *Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman?* By Patricia A. McKissack
- *Steve Jobs: Thinking Differently* by Patricia Latkin
- *Tituba of Salem Village* by Ann Petry
- *Woodsong* by Gary Paulsen

# St. Thomas's Day School

## **Information Books**

- *The Book of Where* by Neill Bell
- *Buried Alive* by Elaine Scott
- *Civil War (DK Eyewitness Books)*
- *Dogs on Duty* by Dorothy Henshaw Patent
- *Good for Me* by Marilyn Burns
- *Freedom Walkers* by Russell Freedman
- *The Impossible Rescue: The True Story of an Amazing Arctic Adventure* by Martin Sandler
- *Knowledge Encyclopedia* by DK
- *Lincoln's Grave Robbers* by Steve Sheinkin
- *The Polar Bear Scientists* by Peter Lourie
- *Prairie Visions: The Life and Times of Solomon Butcher* by Pam Conrad
- *Rachel Carson and Her Book That Changed the World* by Laurie Lawlor
- *A Separate Battle: Women and the Civil War* by Ina Chang
- *Seymour Simon's Extreme Oceans* by Seymour Simon
- *The Story of the World: History of the Classical Child: Volume 3: Early Modern Times* by Susan Wise Bauer
- *Titanic: Voices From Disaster* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *We Remember the Holocaust* by David Adler
- *Long Journey Home* by Julius Lester

# Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **Poetry**

- *The Blood-Hungry Spleen and Other Poems About Our Parts* by Allan Wolf
- *Every Thing On It* by Shel Silverstein
- *Heartbeat* by Sharon Creech
- *Honey, I Love* by Eloise Greenfield
- *If I Were in Charge of the World and Other Worries* by Judith Viorst
- *Jazz on a Saturday Night* by Leo Dillon
- *Joyful Noise* by Paul Fleischman
- *My America: A Poetry Atlas of the United States* selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- *Now We Are Six* by A. A. Milne
- *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse
- *Poetry For Young People: Edgar Allen Poe* by Brod Bagert
- *A Seed is Sleepy* by Dianna Hutts Aston
- *Science Verse* by Jon Scieszka
- *Something Big Has Been Here* by Jack Prelutsky
- *Water Dance* by Thomas Locker
- *When We Were Very Young* by A. A. Milne
- *Wind Song* by Carl Sandburg
- *Words with Wings A Treasury of African-American Poetry and Art* by Belinda Rochelle, editor
- *You Come Too* by Robert Frost

# Summer Reading List

## **2020 Nutmeg Book Nominees**

- *All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* by Leslie Connor
- *Ban This Book* by Alan Gratz
- *The Dreadful Tale of Prosper Redding* by Alexandra Bracken
- *Estranged* by Ethan M. Aldridge
- *Fuzzy* by Tom Angleberger
- *Greetings from Witness Protection!* by Jake Burt
- *The Jumbies* by Tracey Baptiste
- *Save Me a Seat* by Sarah Weeks
- *Unbound: A Novel in Verse* by Ann E. Burg
- *The Van Gogh Deception* by Deron R. Hicks

## **Anthologies**

- *The Book of Dragons* by E. Nesbit
- *Clever Gretchen and Other Forgotten Folktales* retold by Alison Lurie
- *Cloaked in Red* by Vivian VandVelde
- *The Dark Thirty* by Patricia McKissack
- *Every Living Thing* by Cynthia Rylant
- *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros
- *The Journey* edited by Alma Murray and Robert Thomas
- *Shelf Life: Stories by the Book* edited by Gary Paulsen
- *Shen of the Sea* by Arthur Chrisman

Assignment #1:  
Nutmeg Book  
Response  
Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Name: \_\_\_\_\_









Draw a picture of your favorite scene from the book.