



Welcome to the Middle School at O.L.V.C.S.!

I am really looking forward to having you in my class as sixth graders. Along with sleeping, sunning, and swimming, I hope you take the time to read and write over this summer to prepare for middle school. I believe that summertime, especially during your youthful years, should be carefree. Of course, I also think you should read and write often because, as with your body, your mind needs exercise to stay healthy as well.

I would like every incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grader to read Sing Down the Moon by Scott O'Dell at some point this summer and write a short summary of the book, no more than a page. This novel is a Newberry Award Winner with the theme of the importance of never giving up. The novel will be used in the first weeks of school to review certain reading strategies such as making connections and drawing inferences.

Attached is also a list of other age appropriate suggestions for this summer. If you choose to read these books or others of your own choice doesn't really matter as long as you read. Schlow Library, along with many websites, has great recommendations as well. Choose one of your books besides Sing Down the Moon and write a recommendation for it. To do this, just fold a piece of paper in half so that it opens like a book. On the outside draw a cover with the name of the book, author, and your own name along with an illustration. Then on the inside write, type, or print your recommendation convincing your classmates to read your summer favorite. We will hang these up on the first day of school to advertise great books for our friends to choose from for their September book reports. Finally, when you return in August, please bring a log of all the books you read over the summer.

To be successful at anything, you need to practice. Whether you are into running, rowing, or writing, practice makes perfect. Just as I want you to read what you will enjoy this summer, I would like you to write about what you enjoy as well. Again, it doesn't matter how you write or what you write about, as long as you write something. Along with your book jacket recommendations, please feel free to bring in any other pieces of writing that you do over the summer. I am really looking forward to seeing your logs, recommendations, and most of all your smiling face in August. In the meantime, Happy Summer!!!

☺ Mrs. Smith  
Grade 6 Language Arts  
O.L.V.C.S.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Suggestions

**The View From Saturday** EL Konigsburg

**Bud, Not Buddy** Christopher Paul Curtis

**What Could Go Wrong?** Willo Davis Roberts

**Twenty-One Balloons** William Pene Dubois

**Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief** Wendelin van Draanen

**Someone is Hiding on Alcatraz Island** Eve Bunting

**The Bread Winner** Deborah Ellis

**A Week in the Woods** Andrew Clements

**Behind the Bedroom Wall** Laura E. Williams

**A Long Way from Chicago** Richard Peck

**Under the Blood Red Sun** Graham Salisbury

**Artemis Fowl** Eoin Colfer

**Cousins** Virginia Hamilton

**Half Magic** Edward Eager

**Running Out of Time** Margaret Peterson Haddix

**Woodsong** Gary Paulsen

**The Secret of Platform 13** Eve Ibbotson

**Ties That Bind, Ties That Break** Lensey Namioka

**Dealing With Dragons** Patricia C. Wrede

**The Man in the Ceiling** Jules Feiffer

**Whether you read these books or others of your own choice, please keep a log to share with the class in August and remember to write a book jacket recommendation for at least one book. Have a really amazing summer!**