

## **Middle School Summer Assignments 2026**

Please contact Mrs. Galloway or Mrs. Miller with any questions regarding your summer assignments.

[kgalloway@stanthonynet.org](mailto:kgalloway@stanthonynet.org), [bmiller@stanthonynet.org](mailto:bmiller@stanthonynet.org)

*All summer assignments are due on the first day of school. Students will read BOTH BOOKS listed below. Students will complete a [Google Slide presentation](#) for the book with one (#) and [Summer Reading Project - One Pager](#) for the book with two (##).*

### **Reading:**

#### **Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

- **Ground Zero (#)** - Alan Gratz  
Two kids. One devastating day.

**September 11, 2001.** New York City. Nine year old Brandon goes to work with his dad on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center. Out of nowhere an airplane slams into the tower, creating a fiery nightmare of terror and confusion that threatens everyone in the building. Can Brandon survive—and escape?

**September 11, 2019.** Afghanistan. Eleven year old Reshmina has grown up in the shadow of war, but she dreams of peace and progress. When a battle erupts in her village, Reshmina stumbles upon a wounded American soldier named Taz. Should she help him—and put herself and her family in mortal danger?

- **The One and Only Ivan (##)** - Katherine Applegate  
Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes.

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### **Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade :**

- **Fever (#)** - Laurie Halse Anderson  
During the summer of 1793, Mattie Cook lives above the family coffee shop with her widowed mother and grandfather. Mattie spends her days avoiding chores and making plans to turn the family business into the finest Philadelphia has ever seen. But then the fever breaks out.
- **Simon Sort of Says (##)** - Erin Bow  
Simon O’Keeffe’s biggest claim to fame should be the time his dad accidentally gave a squirrel a holy sacrament. Or maybe the alpaca disaster that went viral on YouTube. But the story the whole world wants to tell about Simon is the one he’d do anything to forget: the one starring Simon as a famous survivor of gun violence at school.

Two years after the infamous event, twelve-year-old Simon and his family move to the National Quiet Zone—the only place in America where the internet is banned. Instead of talking about Simon, the astronomers who flock to the area are busy listening for signs of life in space. And when Simon makes a friend who’s determined to give the scientists what they’re looking for, he’ll finally have the chance to spin a new story for the world to tell.

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### **Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

- **The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible (#)** - Leon Leyson  
This, the only memoir published by a former Schindler's list child, perfectly captures the innocence of a small boy who goes through the unthinkable. Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezjon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto. With incredible luck, perseverance, and grit, Leyson was able to survive the sadism of the Nazis, including that of the demonic Amon Goeth, commandant of Plaszow, the concentration camp outside Krakow.
- **The Misfits (##)** - James Howe  
At once hilarious and poignant, this novel is about four unpopular 7th graders who decide to band together to run for student council. One is overweight, one is tall and opinionated, one is slow, and one is gay. Together they make a formidable quartet as they confront their classmates about their name-calling and stereotyping.