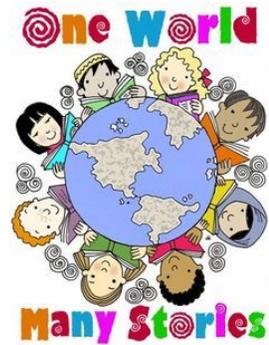


“When I look back, I am so impressed again with the life-giving power of literature. If I were a young person today, **trying to gain a sense of myself in the world**, I would do that again by reading, just as I did when I was young.”  
~ **Maya Angelou**

“There are many little ways to enlarge your child’s world. Love of books is the best of all.”  
~ **Jacqueline Kennedy**

“If you are going to get anywhere in life, you have to read a lot of books.” ~ **Roald Dahl**

**Galvin Middle School**  
**Summer Reading Program**  
**Fall 2019 “One World, Many Stories”**



Dear Families,

Research tells us that the more children read, the better they read, and the more children read *outside* of school, the better they perform *in* school. The Galvin Middle School believes that learning is a year-round endeavor and that summer vacation presents unique opportunities for learning.

For the many reasons that summer reading benefits us, including improved reading skills, an increased desire to read, and improved self esteem, all students are asked to read at least **two books** from their grade level summer reading lists during the summer - **one title from our fiction list, and one title from our nonfiction list.** This year, our whole school is reading books that relate to the theme, “One World, Many Stories.”

In addition, students who read **four (4) or more books** will qualify as **advanced summer readers** and participate in a recognition celebration in the fall.

When we return to school in the fall, all Galvin students will participate in learning activities that reinforce this year’s theme.

We are confident that this list of recommended books contains selections that each student will find interesting, and that make summer reading enjoyable. Please e-mail any questions regarding summer reading to Lisa Kaminski, ELA/Reading Department Advisor, at [KaminskiL@cantonma.org](mailto:KaminskiL@cantonma.org).

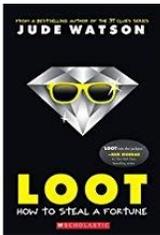
Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

ELA/Reading Department  
Galvin Middle School

**GALVIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Summer Reading - Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
*Fall 2019*

All entering sixth grade students are required to read two titles – one from the fiction list and one from the nonfiction list.

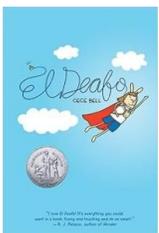
## *Fiction*



### **Loot (Any book in the series)** by Jude Watson (2017 MCBA Honor)

On a foggy night in Amsterdam, a man falls from a rooftop to the wet pavement below. It's Alfie McQuinn, the notorious cat burglar, and he's dying. As sirens wail in the distance, Alfie manages to get out two last words to his young son, March: "Find jewels."

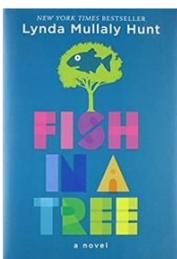
But March learns that his father is not talking about a stash of loot. He's talking about Jules, the twin sister March never knew he had. No sooner than the two find each other, they're picked up by the police and sent to the world's worst orphanage. It's not prison, but it feels like it. March and Jules have no intention of staying put. They know their father's business inside and out, and they're tired of being pushed around. Just one good heist, and they'll live the life of riches and freedom most kids only dream about. Watch out! There are wild kids on the loose and a crime spree coming . .



### **El Deafo** by Cece Bell (2017 MCBA Winner)

A **2015 Newbery Honor Book** Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful - and very awkward - hearing aid.

The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear - sometimes things she shouldn't - but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is.



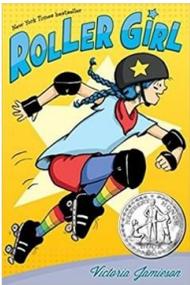
### **Fish in a Tree** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (2018 MCBA Honor)

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her -and to everyone - than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.



**Space Case (Any book in the series)** by Stuart Gibbs  
(2018 MCBA Honor)

Like his fellow lunarnauts—otherwise known as Moonies—living on Moon Base Alpha, twelve-year-old Dashiell Gibson is famous the world over for being one of the first humans to live on the moon. And, he’s bored out of his mind. Kids aren’t allowed on the lunar surface, meaning they’re trapped inside the tiny moon base with next to nothing to occupy their time—and the only other kid Dash’s age spends all his time hooked into virtual reality games.



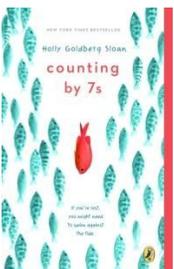
**Roller Girl** by Victoria Jamieson (2018 MCBA Honor)

For most of her twelve years, Astrid has done everything with her best friend Nicole. But after Astrid falls in love with roller derby and signs up for derby camp, Nicole decides to go to dance camp instead. And so begins the most difficult summer of Astrid's life as she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, hang on to the friend she feels slipping away, and cautiously embark on a new friendship. As the end of summer nears and her first roller derby bout (and junior high!) draws closer, Astrid realizes that maybe she *is* strong enough to handle the bout, a lost friendship, and middle school... in short, strong enough to be a roller girl.



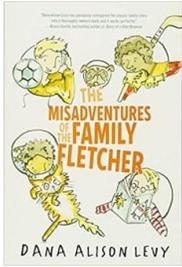
**Because of Mr. Terupt (Any book in the series)** by Rob Buyea  
(2013 MA Children’s Book Award Winner)

It’s the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There’s . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who’s having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn’t let them get away with much...until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.



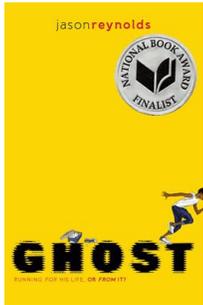
**Counting By Sevens** by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn’t kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now.



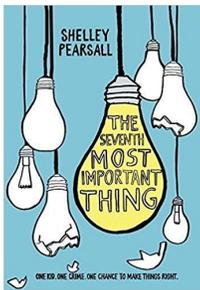
## **The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher** by Dana Alison Levy

The start of the school year is not going as the Fletcher brothers hoped. Each boy finds his plans for success veering off in unexpected and sometimes disastrous directions. And at home, their miserable new neighbor complains about everything. As the year continues, the boys learn the hard and often hilarious lesson that sometimes what you least expect is what you come to care about the most.



## **Ghost** by Jason Reynolds

Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent. Thing is, Ghost has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he is trying to outrun. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?



## **The Seventh Most Important Thing** by Shelley Pearsall

It was a bitterly cold day when Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge - he is ready to send Arthur to juvie for the foreseeable future. Amazingly, it's the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service...working for him.

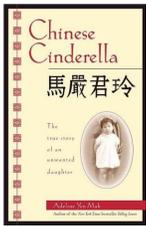


## **Rain Reign** by Ann M. Martin

Rose Howard has OCD, Asperger's syndrome, and an obsession with homonyms (even her name is a homonym). She gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms (Reign, Rein), which, according to Rose's rules of homonyms, is very special. Rain was a lost dog Rose's father brought home. Rose and Rain are practically inseparable. And they are often home alone, as Rose's father spends most evenings at a bar, and doesn't have much patience for his special-needs daughter.

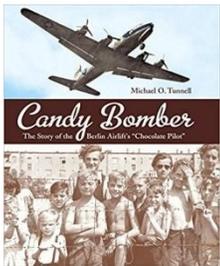
Just as a storm hits town, Rain goes missing. Rose's father shouldn't have let Rain out. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places to search. Rose will find Rain, but so will Rain's original owners. Hearts will break and spirits will soar for this powerful story, brilliantly told from Rose's point of view.

# Non-fiction



## Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

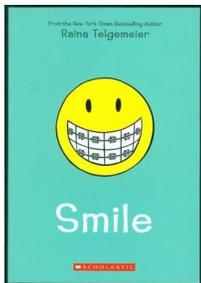
A Chinese proverb says, "Falling leaves return to their roots." In *Chinese Cinderella*, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair. Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for — the love and understanding of her family



## Candy Bomber by Michael O. Tunnell

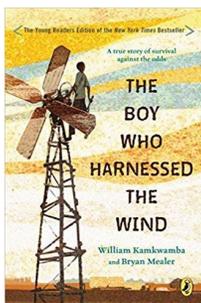
(Orbis Pictus Honor for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children Award)

After World War II the United States and Britain airlifted food and supplies into Russian-blockaded West Berlin. US Air Force Lieutenant Gail S. Halvorsen knew the children of the city were suffering. To lift their spirits, he began dropping chocolate and gum by parachute. Michael O. Tunnell tells an inspiring tale of candy and courage, illustrated with Lt. Halvorsen's personal photographs, as well as letters and drawings from the children of Berlin to their beloved "Uncle Wiggly Wings."



## Smile by Raina Telgemeier (Graphic Novel) - memoir

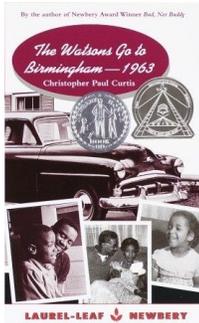
Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly.



## The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba

When a terrible drought struck William Kamkwamba's tiny village in Malawi, his family lost all of the season's crops, leaving them with nothing to eat and nothing to sell. William began to explore science books in his village library, looking for a solution. There, he came up with the idea that would change his family's life forever: he could build a windmill. Made out of scrap metal and old bicycle parts, William's windmill brought electricity to his home and helped his family pump the water they needed to farm the land. Retold for a younger audience, this exciting memoir shows how, even in a desperate situation, one boy's brilliant idea can light up the world. Complete with photographs, illustrations, and an epilogue that will bring readers up to date on William's story, this is the perfect edition to read and share with the whole family.

## Historical Fiction

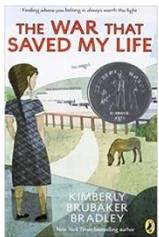


### **The Watsons go to Birmingham** by Christopher Paul Curtis

The Newbery Honor-winning American classic, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham--1963*, celebrates 20 years with this anniversary edition featuring a special letter from Christopher Paul Curtis and an introduction by noted educator Dr. Pauletta Bracy.

Enter the hilarious world of ten-year-old Kenny and his family, the Weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. There's Momma, Dad, little sister Joetta, and brother Byron, who's thirteen and an "official juvenile delinquent." When Momma and Dad decide it's time for a visit to Grandma, Dad comes home with the amazing Ultra-Glide, and the Watsons set out on a trip like no other. They're heading South to Birmingham, Alabama, toward one of the darkest

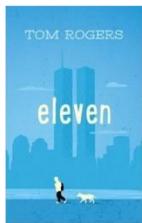
moments in America's history.



### **The War that Saved My Life** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (2018 MCBA WINNER)

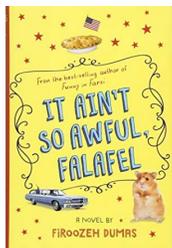
#### **2016 Newbery Honor book, Winner of the 2016 Schneider Family Book Award**

This New York Times bestseller is an exceptionally moving story of triumph against all odds set during World War II. Nine year old Ada has never left her one room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute, she sneaks out to join him. So begins a new adventure for Ada and for Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in. As Ada teaches herself to ride a pony, learns to read and watches for German spies, she begins to trust Susan, and Susan begins to love Ada and Jamie. But in the end, will their bond be enough to hold them together through wartime? Or will Ada and her brother fall back into the cruel hands of their mother.



### **Eleven** by Tom Rogers

Set around the time of the 9/11 attacks, Alex Douglas always wanted to be a hero. But nothing heroic ever happened to Alex. Nothing, that is, until his eleventh birthday. When Alex rescues a stray dog as a birthday gift to himself, he doesn't think his life can get much better. Radar, his new dog, feels the same way. But this day has bigger things in store for both of them.



### **Ain't So Awful Falafel** by Firoozeh Dumas

Set in the late 1970s this is a story about a girl from Iran trying to fit in to her new California home, a task made all the more difficult as the Iran hostage crisis unfolds. Dumas gives us plenty of lighthearted laughter while telling a story that still resonates with the difficult experience of many young immigrants today.



### **Once** by Morris Gleitzman

Felix lives in a convent orphanage high in the mountains in Poland. He is convinced his parents are still alive and that they will one day come back to get him. When Nazi soldiers come to the orphanage Felix escapes and makes his way home. The journey to find his parents is a long and difficult one, as all of Poland is occupied by the Nazis and a dangerous place for a Jewish boy. Felix manages to live and look after himself and another orphan, Zelda, with the help of a kind dentist, Barney, who is hiding and looking after a number of Jewish children.

# SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY



## Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by J.K. Rowling

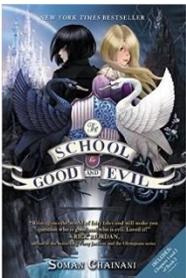
When Magizoologist Newt Scamander arrives in New York, he intends his stay to be just a brief stopover. However, when his magical case is misplaced and some of Newt's fantastic beasts escape, it spells trouble for everyone...

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them marks the screenwriting debut of J.K. Rowling, author of the beloved and internationally bestselling Harry Potter books. Featuring a cast of remarkable characters, this is epic, adventure-packed storytelling at its very best



## Heroes of Olympus Series by Rick Riordan

(Choose one book to read) The bestselling author of the Percy Jackson series pumps up the action and suspense in The Heroes of Olympus series. Fans of demi-gods, prophecies, and quests will be left breathless.



## The School for Good and Evil (Any book in the series) by Soman Chainani (2016 MCBA Honor)

With her glass slippers and devotion to good deeds, Sophie knows she'll earn top marks at the School for Good and join the ranks of past students like Cinderella, Rapunzel, and Snow White. Meanwhile, Agatha, with her shapeless black frocks and wicked black cat, seems a natural fit for the villains in the School for Evil.



## The Nest by Kenneth Oppel (2018 MCBA Honor)

For some kids summer is a sun-soaked season of fun. But for Steve, it's just another season of worries. Worries about his sick newborn baby brother who is fighting to survive, worries about his parents who are struggling to cope, even worries about the wasp's nest looming ominously from the eaves. So when a mysterious wasp queen invades his dreams, offering to "fix" the baby, Steve thinks his prayers have been answered.

All he has to do is say "Yes." But "yes" is a powerful word. It is also a dangerous one. And once it is uttered, can it be taken back?