

OIB Summer Reading Assignment – Cinquième Group 1 – page 1

Welcome to the 5ème OIB section of St.Vincent. To help you enjoy reading in English and become better at it, we would like you to select and **read one of the books** from the Summer Reading List and **choose one assignment to complete**. Please make sure you read the assignment instructions carefully.

Summer Reading List: Choose ONE book.

1) *Phantom Tollbooth*, Jules Pfeiffer

Bored with school and life, Milo awakes from a nap to find a mysterious package in his room. Inside is a tollbooth; Milo's journey through the booth into another world brings him to warring kingdoms: one of numbers and the other of letters. Only Milo can bring peace.

2) *Dragons at Crumbling Castle and Other Stories*, Terry Pratchett

This collection of fourteen funny and inventive tales by acclaimed author Sir Terry Pratchett features a memorable cast of inept wizards, sensible heroes, and unusually adventuresome tortoises. Including more than one hundred black-and-white illustrations, the appealingly designed book celebrates Pratchett's inimitable wordplay and irreverent approach to the conventions of storytelling.

3) *Stig of the dump*, Clive King

This was the first original Puffin published in 1963. The story of lonely eight-year-old Barney who befriends Stig, a remnant of the Stone Age hidden in the local chalk pit, has not been out of print since. The two boys grow to appreciate each other's eras and skills as they contrive ingenious solutions to Stig's various problems living out of the junk that is thrown into the pit. A modern classic.

4) *Golden Compass*, Philip Pullman

In the first of a trilogy, Pullman has created a wholly developed universe, which is, as he states, much like our own but different in many ways – a world in which humans are paired with animal 'daemons' that seem like alter egos, only with personalities of their own. Filled with fast-paced action, the plot involves a secret scientific facility, where children are being severed from their daemons; warring factions; witch clans; an outcast armoured bear, who bonds with Lyra; and more. It becomes evident that the future of the world and its inhabitants is in the hands of the ever-more-resilient and dedicated Lyra.

5) *Witch Child* Celia Rees

In 1659, 14-year-old Mary Newbury travels from England to the New World, where she becomes embroiled in what are effectively the Salem witch trials. This story is an absorbing account of what happens when suspicion and rumour fuel secret agendas, prejudices and politics. A very satisfying read.

6) *Little Women* Louisa May Alcott

Published in 1868, Little Women is a timeless classic about a family of four girls growing up with their mother in New England. Their father is away serving as a chaplain in the Civil War, and the sisters struggle to support themselves and keep their household running despite the fact that the family recently lost its fortune. A coming of age novel with a variety of characters to suit every taste.

7) *Tom's Midnight Garden*, Philippa Pearce

Equisitely written, *Tom's Midnight Garden* explores time and how it can be put back. It is the story of lonely Tom, who is staying in a gardenless flat alone because of his brother's measles, who then discovers that time is turned back at midnight. An intriguing story with a wonderful surprise at the end.

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8) *The Story of Tracy Beaker*, Jacqueline Wilson

This book speaks directly and unpatronisingly to and about the kind of children that are underrepresented in young fiction. Tracy Beaker, who is the lead character, is an irrepressibly imaginative child (though the staff in her care home say she has 'behavioural problems') who writes the story of her life while waiting for her mother to come and get her back.

9) *Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror*, Chris Priestly

This is a mesmerising, understated and convincingly Victorian collection of grisly ghost stories. Uncle Montague tells tales of his sinister knick-knacks to his nephew Edgar over tea and cake. A book for children who enjoy being frightened.

10) *The Lionboy Trilogy*, Zizou Corder

This sci-fi trilogy fits everything in – cautionary science, dystopian oppression, passionate conservationism, villainous relatives, shipboard circuses and a boy who can speak to cats, all set in a petrol-poor, corporation-controlled future. Charlie Ashanti discovers his scientist parents have been kidnapped by the corporation because they're on the verge of discovering a breakthrough cure for asthma. Charlie must travel to Paris, Venice, Morocco and Haiti, in the company of the lions he has freed from their tamer.

11) *Julie of the Wolves*, Jean George

Newbery Medal 1973; while running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.

12) *Hatchet*, by Gary Paulsen

Brian Robeson is flying to visit his dad. The pilot has a heart attack and Brian crash lands the plane in the middle of the Canadian wilderness. For 54 days in the wild, armed with only a hatchet, we watch Brian fight for his survival. A compelling read. Newbery Honor.

Reviews partially adapted from various online sources.

Assignments: Choose one assignment, it is due in the first day back.

1. You be the author. Re-write your chosen novel or collection of short stories as a children's picture book (maximum ten pages). Illustrate your book and create a front and back cover.
2. To be continued. Create the next chapter for this novel. What might happen next? The narrative voice should remain the same (first, second or third person), and try to make it believable! Length requirement: two pages typed, four pages handwritten.
3. Connect to my world. Which character do you think you are most similar to? Explain how you are similar in personality or circumstances and why you think you share so many traits. Length requirement: two pages typed, four pages handwritten.