Dear Parents,

This suggested reading list should help you find quality literature for you and your child to read together throughout the year. Please note that we do not have the space to include all books by one author; be sure to look at other books each author has written. Some of these books will be available at the Book Fair and all of them are available in the Lower School Library. If you would like to see the reading lists for other grades, they are posted on the Library page of the Nightingale website. This list is only a starting point. Enjoy!

The Class III teachers would like to let you know which books will be part of the Class III reading curriculum next year. It is much more enjoyable for the girls when they have NOT read these novels before they read them in class.

Lois Strell, Lower School Librarian

Books for Class III Curriculum

Big Wave
Extra Credit
100 Dresses
Turtle in Paradise
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson
Inside Out and Back Again
Number the Stars
Sarah, Plain and Tall / Skylark
The Secret Language
Knights and Castles Research Guide #2
Glory B
The Castle in the Attic

Buck, Pearl
Clement, Andrew
Estes, Eleanor
Holm, Jessica
Lord, Betty Bao
Lai, Thanha
Lowry, Lois
McLaughlin, Patricia
Nordstrom, Ursula
Osbourne, Will & Mary Pope
Scattergood, Augusta
Winthrop, Elizabeth
CLASSICS AND OLD FAVORITES

Mr. Popper's Penguins  Atwater, Richard
The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

The Wizard of Oz (series)  Baum, L. Frank
After being transported by a cyclone to the land of Oz, Dorothy and her dog are befriended by a scarecrow, a tin man, and a cowardly lion, who accompany her to the Emerald City to look for a wizard who can help Dorothy return home to Kansas.

A Bear Called Paddington  Bond, Michael
A very small bear found by Mr. and Mrs. Brown at Paddington station becomes one of the family.

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (series)  Lewis, C.S.
Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land.

The Story of Dr. Doolittle (series)  Lofting, Hugh
These are the adventures of a kind-hearted doctor who loves animals and understands their language.

Betsy-Tacy (series)  Lovelace, Maud Hart
A warm-hearted story about 5 year old Betsy and Tacy, who become inseparable friends for life.

Winnie-the-Pooh (series)  Milne. A.A
The adventures of Christopher Robin and his friends, in which Pooh Bear uses a balloon to get honey, Piglet meets a Heffalump, and Eeyore has a birthday.

Five Children and It  Nesbit, Edith
When four brothers and sisters discover a sand-fairy in the gravel pit near their country home, they have no way of knowing all the adventures its wish-granting will bring them.

The Borrowers (series)  Norton, Mary
A charming story of the tiny people no taller than a pencil who live in quiet old country houses and "borrow" the things they need.

Charlotte's Web  White, E.B.
Wilbur the pig is so sad when he discovers he is going to be the farmer's Christmas dinner, until his spider friend Charlotte comes up with a plan to save him.

FICTION

Ivy and Bean (series)  Barrows, Annie
When seven-year-old Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support from her new neighbor Ivy, who is less boring than Bean first suspected.

Blubber  Blume, Judy
Jill goes along with the rest of the fifth-grade class in bullying a classmate and then finds out what it's like when she, too, becomes a target.

Superfudge (series)  Blume, Judy
A very funny series, as Peter describes the highs and lows of life with his younger brother Fudge.

The Chocolate Touch  Catling, Patrick Skene
A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

Year of the Book  Cheng, Andrea
A young Chinese American girl, navigates relationships with family, friends, and her fourth-grade classroom and finds a true best friend.

Frindle  Clements, Andrew
When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory  Dahl, Roald
Five children are lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory and take advantage of the situation, each in his/her own way.
James and the Giant Peach
Dahl, Roald
A wonderful fantasy about a young boy and a huge, magical peach.

Liberty Porter, First Daughter (series)
DeVillers, Julia
On her first day at the White House, nine-year-old Liberty exuberantly explores her new home while making new friends and giving unique tours of her own.

Because of Winn Dixie
DiCamillo, Kate
Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

The Birthday Storm
Draper Sharon
Sassy and her family go to Florida during summer vacation to visit Grammy for her birthday, and when the weather takes a turn for the worse, Sassy learns that love is more important than decorations and caterers.

Dessert First
Durand, Hallie
Third-grader Dessert's love of treats leads to a change in her large family's dinner routine, then an awful mistake, and later a true sacrifice, after her teacher Mrs. Howdy Doody urges students to march to the beat of their own drums.

Nikki and Deja
England, Karen
When an arrogant new girl comes to school, third graders and best friends Nikki and Deja form a club that would exclude her, but the results are unexpected!

Lowji Discovers America
Fleming, Candace
A nine-year-old East Indian boy tries to adjust to his new life in suburban America, with surprising results.

Mallory on the Move (series)
Friedman, Laurie
After moving to a new town, eight-year-old Mallory keeps throwing stones in the "Wishing Pond," but things will not go back to the way they were before, and she remains torn between old and new best friends.

Mrs. Lilly is Silly
Gutman, Dan
On Career Day at Ella Mentry School, local reporter Mrs. Lilly helps A.J. and his fellow third-graders start a school newspaper, but their efforts have unexpected consequences.

Alice-Miranda at School
Harvey, Jacqueline
Soon after arriving at the Winchesterfield-Downsfordvale Academy for Proper Young Ladies, resourceful seven-and-one-quarter-year-old Alice-Miranda finds her new boarding school to be a very curious place with no flowers in the gardens, a headmistress that has not been seen for years, and a mysterious stranger that seems to be hiding out on the premises.

Encore, Grace!
Hoffman, Mary
Grace and her group of friends, the Famous Five, face a variety of changes, including a new girl in class, taking part in the Christmas play, losing a dear friend, and challenging the grown-ups in their lives.

Piper Reed, Party Planner (series)
Holt, Kimberley
When she discovers the price of a new clubhouse, Piper and her fellow Gypsy Club members try to earn the money by creating a birthday-party-planning business.

Pandora the Curious
Holub, Joan
Pandora, one of the few mortals at Mount Olympus Academy, has a curious nature that makes it difficult for her to resist peeking into the mysterious and dangerous box brought to school by Epimetheus, which causes more trouble than anyone could imagine.

Lady Lollipop
King-Smith, Dick
A quick-witted swineherd and a pig named Lollipop are royally rewarded after they reform a spoiled princess.

Year of the Dog
Lin, Grace
Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.
11 Birthdays
Mass, Wendy
After celebrating all nine their birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, have a fight on their tenth and do not speak to each other for the whole year. They prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately, but strange things begin to happen on that day.

Gold Threaded Dress
Marsden, Carolyn
When Oy and her Thai American family move to a new neighborhood, her third-grade classmates tease her because she is different. Will Oy find a way to deal with this problem?

Starting With Alice
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
After Alice, her older brother, and their father move from Chicago to Maryland, Alice has trouble fitting into her new third-grade class. With the help of some new friends and her own unique outlook, she survives.

Clementine (series)
Pennypacker, Sara
While sorting through problems in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine tries several unique hairstyles, while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.

Wayside School Gets a Little Stranger (series)
Sachar, Louis
Unusual things happen in the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

Sword in the Grotto
Sage, Angie
With the help of the ghost Edmund, Araminta and Wanda survive a trip through a secret tunnel to bring back a present for Sir Horace's birthday.

Bitter Sweet Summer
Smith, Anne
Nine-year-old Katie and her four-year-old brother, Tyler, have an emotional summer when their father considers moving them to Portland, and they are surprised by a visit from their mother, a country singer.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Secret School
Avi
In 1925, fourteen-year-old Ida Bidson secretly takes over as the teacher when the one-room schoolhouse in her remote Colorado area closes unexpectedly.

Magic Half
Barrows, Annie
Eleven-year-old Miri Gill feels left out in her family, which has two sets of twins and her, until she travels back in time to 1935 and discovers Molly, her own lost twin, and brings her back to the present day.

The Saturdays
Enright, Elizabeth
The four Melendys decide to pool their resources so each can take turns spending Saturday in a private adventure.

Anna on the Farm
Hahn, Mary Downing
Nine-year-old Anna is happy to spend a week at her aunt and uncle's farm until she meets Theodore. He calls her a "city slicker" until she proves she's just as clever and brave as he

Hannah's Way
Glaser, Linda
In rural Minnesota in 1938, Hannah, a young orthodox Jewish girl, deals with being the new girl.

Strawberry Hill
Hoberman, Mary Ann
Ten-year-old Allie's family moves from New Haven to rural Connecticut, in the midst of the Great Depression, as Allie tries to work out what a true friendship really is.

The Adventures of Hugo Cabret
Selznick, Brian
When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks at a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are in danger of discovery.
Heidi  Spyri, Johanna
A Swiss orphan is heartbroken when she must leave her beloved grandfather and their happy home in the mountains to go to school and to care for an invalid girl in the city.

All-of-a-Kind Family (series)  Taylor, Sydney
The warm-hearted adventures of five sisters growing up in a Jewish family in New York in the early twentieth century.

Little House on the Prairie  Wilder, Laura Ingalls
In the late 1800’s, Laura’s family travels from the big woods of Wisconsin to a new home on the prairie, where they build a house, meet neighboring Indians, dig a well, and fight a prairie fire.

ANIMALS

Time Cat  Alexander, Lloyd
Jason and his magic cat Gareth travel through time to visit countries all over the world during different periods of history.

Friendship According to Humphrey (series)  Birney, Betty
When Humphrey the hamster returns to Mrs. Brisbane's class after the winter break, a new class pet and some other surprises give him an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of friendship.

Mousenet  Breitrose, Prudenc
Sent to live with her father and his wife in Oregon after having stayed with her inventor uncle and scientist mother in Cincinnati, ten-year-old Megan is lonely until she starts working with some computer-savvy mice to try to save Mouse Nation--and the Planet.

Bookstore Mouse  Christian, Peggy
A mouse, living in an antiquarian bookstore, learns the power of words when he literally falls into a medieval tale and helps defeat a dragon!

Pinky Pye (series)  Estes, Eleanor
While spending a bird-watching summer on Fire Island, the Pye family acquires a small black kitten that can use a typewriter.

Wild Wings  Lewis, Gill
Callum becomes friends with Iona, a practically feral classmate who has discovered an osprey, thought to be gone from Scotland, living on Callum's family farm. They eventually share the secret with others, including Jeneba who encounters the same bird at her home in Gambia. A bittersweet yet inspiring story.

Pee Wee’s Tale (series)  Hurwitz, Joanna
When his owner's parents let him go in Central Park, a young guinea pig learns to survive in the natural world with the help of a "park-wise" squirrel.

One Boy and his Dog  Ibbotson, Eva
When lonely, ten-year-old Hal learns that his wealthy parents only rented Fleck, the dog he always wanted, he and new friend Pippa take Fleck and four other dogs from the rental agency on a trek from London to Scotland, where Hal's grandparents live.

Catwings (series)  Le Guin, Ursula
Wishing to visit their mother, two winged cats leave their new country home to return to the city, where they discover a winged kitten in a building about to be torn down.

Dear Hound  Murphy, Jill
When Alfie, a timid deerhound puppy, gets lost in the woods, he will do almost anything--including befriending a pair of foxes--to find his way home to his beloved boy, Charlie, who refuses to believe Alfie is gone for good.

Libby of High Hopes  Primavera, Elise
When ten-year-old Libby Thump stumbles upon High Hopes Horse Farm and finds her dream horse, Princess, a prize-winning jumping horse that has been put out to pasture, Libby tries to convince her parents to give her riding lessons.

The Cricket in Times Square  Selden, George
These are the adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat.
MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE

The Blue Ghost (series)  Bauer, Marion Dane
While visiting her grandmother's log cabin, Liz meets the ghost of her great-great-great grandmother and suddenly finds that she's been transported back in time.

Stolen Sapphire: A Samantha Mystery (series)  Buckey, Sarah
On an ocean liner headed to Europe in 1906, Samantha and Nellie set out to find an archaeologist's legendary sapphire that has gone missing.

Ghost of Fossil Glen (series)  Defelice, Cynthia
Allie knows it's not her imagination when she hears a voice and sees in her mind's eye the face of a girl who seems to be seeking Allie's help.

Case of the Diamond Dog Collar  Freeman, Martha
Cammie and Tessa, daughters of the American president, assume the large gems on the dog collar sent as a gift from the leader of a foreign country must be fake, but when two of them go missing, they start to think maybe the diamonds are real and set out to find the thief.

Crystal Ball: Rebecca Mystery  Greene, Stephanie
Rebecca and her neighbor, Mr. Rossi, seem to be having bad luck. When Mr. Rossi sprains his wrist, Rebecca takes over caring for his pigeons and discovers a strange black pigeon with a mysterious message warning of danger. Where did the pigeon come from, and what sort of danger is lurking?

Adventures of a South Pole Pig  Kurtz, Chris
Flora the pig ditches her quiet life on the farm for an adventure in Antarctica, to live her dream of pulling a sled with a team of dogs.

Candymakers  Mass, Wendy
Four gifted twelve-year-olds, including Logan, the candymaker's son, are set to be contestants in the Confectionary Association's national competition to determine the nation's tastiest sweet, but nobody anticipates that a friendship will form between them.

The Great Cake Mystery  McCall-Smith, Alexander
Before becoming the first female private investigator in Botswana, eight-year-old Precious Ramotswe tracks down a thief who has been stealing her classmates' snacks.

Panda Puzzle (A to Z Mystery series)  Roy, Ron
A series of 26 mystery books in ABC order, beginning with The Absent Author and ending with The Zombie Zone.

Series of Unfortunate Events (series)  Snicket, Lemony
After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other when they discover a distant relative is determined to use anything to get what he wants!

Thea Stilton & the Mountain of Fire (series)  Stilton, Thea
Thea the mouse detective and her detective friends, travel to Australia to solve their next big mystery.

FANTASY

Sister's Grimm  Buckley, Michael
Mysterious events start happening when orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

Half Magic (series)  Eager, Edward
Four children, looking forward to an ordinary summer, enjoy fantastic adventures by double-wishing on an ancient coin.

Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles  Edwards, Julie Andrews
With help from an eccentric professor who trains the imagination of three special children, they all go on a trip to locate the last of the really great Whangdoodles.

Familiars (series)  Epstein, Adam
Three young wizards-in-training are kidnapped by an evil queen and their familiars—Aldwyn the alley cat, Skylar, a know-it-all blue jay, and Gilbert a tree frog who can see the future—set out on a dangerous journey to rescue the boys.
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**BOOKS TO READ ALOUD**

- **Wolves of Willoughby Chase (series)**, Aiken, Joan
  - Surrounded by villains of the first order, brave Bonnie and gentle cousin Sylvia conquer all obstacles in this Victorian melodrama.
- **Poppy (series)**, Avi
  - Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas.
- **Indian in the Cupboard (series)**, Banks, Lynne Reid
  - A little boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard and a key for his birthday, not knowing that the Indian has a life of his own.
- **Tumtum & Nutmeg (series)**, Bearn, Emily
  - Wealthy, married mice Tumtum and Nutmeg find adventure when they secretly try to help two human siblings who live in a tumbledown cottage with their absent-minded inventor father.
- **Penderwicks (series)**, Birdsall, Jeannie
  - While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, to the dismay of his snobbish mother.
- **Danny, Champion of the World**, Dahl, Roald
A young English boy describes his relationship with his father and the special adventure they share together.

**The Tale of Desperaux**  
DiCamillo, Kate  
A Newbery Prize winner, this is a story about a mouse, a princess, some soup, and a spool of thread.

**Walls Within Walls**  
Sherry, Maureen  
The Smithfork family moves into a beautiful Manhattan apartment building and discovers clues to a decades-old mystery hidden behind the walls of their new home.

**Abel's Island**  
Steig, William  
Castaway on an uninhabited island, Abel, a very civilized mouse, finds his resourcefulness and endurance tested to the limit as he struggles to survive and return home.

**Mysterious Benedict Society (series)**  
Stewart, Trenton Lee  
For those who enjoy puzzles and a challenging read, Reynie, Kate, Sticky, and Constance, all graduates of the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened and members of the Benedict Society, embark on a scavenger hunt that turns into a desperate search for the missing Mr. Benedict.

**FOLK AND FAIRY TALES**

**Snow Queen**  
Andersen, Hans C.

**Monkey Business: Stories Around the World**  
Climo, Shirley

**Book of Greek Myths**  
D'Aulaire

**Random House Book of Fairy Tales**  
Ehrlich, Amy

**Heroines: Great Women Through the Ages**  
Hazel, Rebecca

**Swamp Angel**  
Isaacs, Anne

**Beautiful Warrior: Legend of the Nun's Kung Fu**  
McCully, Emily Arnold

**Land of the Dragon King and other Korean Stories**  
McClure, Gillian

**Cloud Tea Monkeys**  
Peet, Mal

**Tales of King Arthur**  
Riordan, James

**Rootabaga Stories**  
Sandburg, Carl

**Mufaro's Beautiful Daughter**  
Steptoe, John

**The Sword in the Stone**  
Talbott, Hudson

**Many Moons**  
Thurber, James

**Chinese Children’s Favorite Stories**  
Yip, Mingmei

**Merlin and the Dragons**  
Yolen, Jane

**POETRY**

**The Oxford Book of Poetry for Children**  
Blishen, Edward

**Laugheteria**  
Florian, Douglas

**Little Dog Poems**  
George, Kristine

**Pass It On: African-American Poetry for Children**  
Hudson, Wade

**A Family of Poems : My Favorite Poetry for Children**  
Kennedy, Caroline

**When We Were Very Young**  
Milne, A.A.

**More Spice Than Sugar**  
Morrison, Lillian, ed.

**Poems to Tickle Your Funny Bone**  
Prelutsky, Jack

**Falling Up / Runny Babbit**  
Silverstein, Shel

**A Child's Garden of Verses**  
Stevenson, Robert L.
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### NON-FICTION

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<td>Bollard, John</td>
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<td>Webster’s New World Dictionary, school ed.</td>
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...and Ask your librarian 🌱