



mashby

Holy Spirit School

Summer 2024

Reading List

Reading is fundamental to learning. It increases your vocabulary, enriches your mind, and stretches your imagination. Recognizing these factors, Holy Spirit School requires all students entering grades K-8 to complete a summer reading program. In addition to these required texts, we have included a list of optional selections and recommended read-aloud books, which we also encourage you to read. The books are available in paperback at local bookstores, libraries, and on-line. This brochure is also located on the school's website at www.holyspiritflames.org under the "Happening at Holy Spirit" section on the front page of the website.

ENTERING KINDERGARTEN

Help your child begin the journey into the world of reading with the most enduring classics of children's literature: nursery rhymes. The rhythm and rhyme of these verses give children important early experience with literature and reading through listening, echo reading, and retelling. Your child should be able to recite the Mother Goose Rhymes at the beginning of the school year.

Read to your child DAILY. When you finish a book ask your child what he/she liked about the book. Encourage discussion about the book with your child. He/she should begin to express answers in complete sentences. Avoid questions with yes/no answers. Rather, ask questions such as 'why did.....go out to the tree?' and 'what was your favorite part of the story?' Help your child develop critical thinking skills by discussing possible endings to a story. Children enjoy imagining what they would have done if they were the main character of a story.

Required reading for Kindergarten:

A Ball for Daisy by Chris Raschka

Pancakes for Breakfast by Tomie dePaola

These two books are NO WORD books. Your child can tell you the story using the pictures many times through the summer.

Suggested authors for reading to your child:

Leo Lionni

Dr. Seuss

Ezra Jack Keats

Arnold Lobel

Syd Hoff

Lois Elhert

Eric Carle

Tomie dePaola

Mercer Mayer

Pat Hutchens

Bill Martin

Melanie Watt

**It is recommended that students have a picture Bible of their own for use during the school year.



ENTERING 1ST GRADE

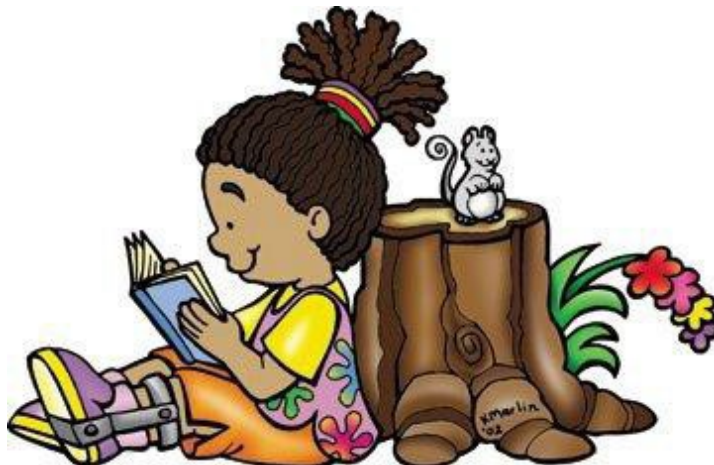
Students are encouraged to read daily with adults over the summer. Engage your child in the story by asking questions. Students may also pair read at this stage, where you read a page, then your child reads a page.

Some suggested authors who we will examine during the school year are:

Mo Willems
Dr. Seuss
David Shannon
Amy Krouse Rosenthal
Laura Numeroff
Shel Silverstein
Tedd Arnold
Drew Daywalt
Dav Pilkey
Jeff Kinney
Mary Pope Osborne
Chris Van Dusen
Nick Bruel
Barbara Park

By **Friday, August 30th** your child will turn in a list of at least ten books they read over the summer.

We also strongly encourage journaling over the summer. It can start as just drawing and then develop into a sentence and a picture. It can be about their day or anything from their imagination!



ENTERING 2ND GRADE

Please choose three books from these series:

Mary Pope Osbourne: Magic Treehouse

Peggy Parish: Amelia Bedelia

Barbara Park: Junie B. Jones

Tracey West: Dragon Masters

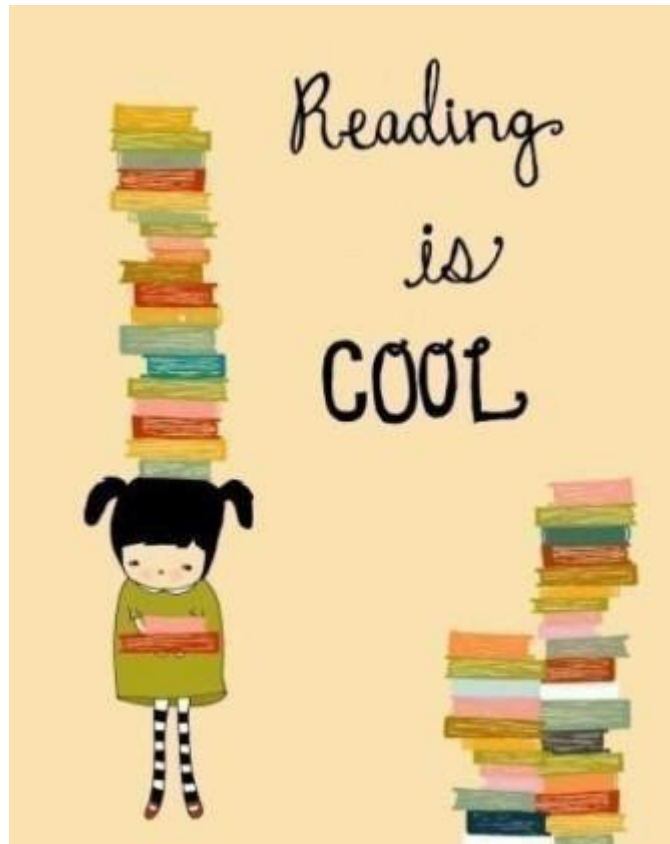
By **Friday, August 30th** the students will turn in a list of the books they have read over the summer.

Other suggested series and authors:

Elisabetter Dami: Geronimo Stilton

Ron Roy: A to Z Mysteries

Marc Brown and Stephen Krensky: Arthur Chapter Books



ENTERING 3RD GRADE

REQUIRED:

Megan Stine: Where is the Vatican?

This will be discussed the first week of school with a test to follow.

Please choose one other from this list:

Donald Sobol: Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective Series (Lexile 500-700)

Mary Pope Osbourne: Magic Tree House Series (Choose only 1 from this series) (Lexile 300-600)

Gertrude Chandler: Boxcar Children Series (Choose only 1 from this series) (Lexile 500-700)

Tomie DePaola: 26 Fairmont Ave Series (Lexile 600-700)

Marjorie Sharmat: Nate the Great Series (Lexile 100-400)

Betty Birney: According to Humphrey (Lexile 670)

Ron Roy: A-Z Mysteries or Calendar Mysteries Series (Lexile 350-600)

Megan McDonald: Judy Moody Series (Lexile 390-500)

Beverly Cleary; Any story (Lexile 500-730)

I Survived Series (Lexile 597 – 740)

Who Is, Who Was, What Was Series (Lexile

After reading one of the books from the student's choice list, the students should create a poster based on one of their books. This project is due on **Friday August 30th**.

Poster should be no larger than 14" x 24" and must include the title of the book, the author, a short summary of the story (no more than a paragraph), and an illustration which should include characters and the setting.

SUGGESTED READ ALOUD BOOKS FOR 3RD GRADERS

Laura Ingalls Wilder: Little House Series

Jack Prelutsky: any book

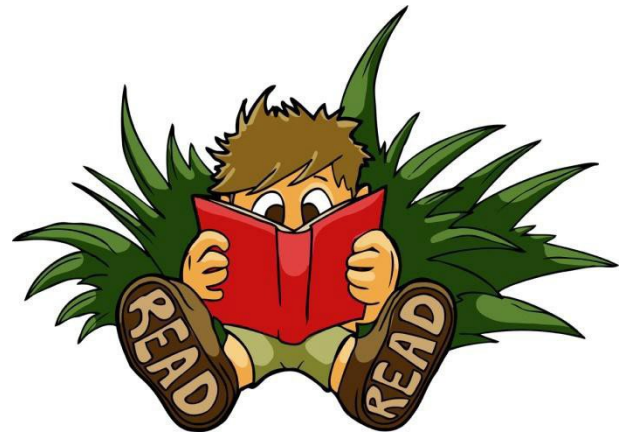
Shel Silverstein: any book

Phyllis Naylor: Shiloh

Roald Dahl: James and the Giant Peach

E.B. White: Stuart Little or The Trumpet of the Swan

Kate DiCamillo: Because of Winn Dixie



ENTERING 4TH GRADE

REQUIRED: Judy Blume: Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (470L)

This book will be discussed the first week of school and there will be a test.

PROJECT:

For this assignment, you will be reading ONE book, and you have two options to choose from:

- Option 1: "I Survived Series"(590-740L) - This series tells stories of young people surviving real-life events. Choose one book from this series to read and analyze for your project.

- Option 2: Fiction Books - The following list includes five fictional books with varying Lexile levels. Choose one book from this list to read and analyze for your project:
 - The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner (580L)
 - The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis (940L)
 - James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl (870L)
 - The Small War of Sergeant Donkey by Maureen Daly
 - The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary (830L)

Projects to choose from:

1. Make a book jacket using construction paper. Write a summary of the story for the inside flap of your book jacket.
2. "Using a cardstock (8.5" x 11") on one side, write the title and author of the book and draw a large illustration. On the other side, write a letter to the author telling what you liked about the book."
3. Make a series of three pictures to show an event that happened in the beginning, middle and end of the story. Label each picture with a one or two sentence description.
4. Make three bookmarks about the book. Show a main character, an important scene, and the main idea of the book. Label each picture with one or two sentences.

Projects will be due Friday August 30th.



ENTERING 5TH GRADE

The fifth grade summer reading list is filled with many exciting stories from all types of genres: fantasy, realistic fiction, adventure, historical fiction, and biography.

REQUIRED:

Gita Varadarajan and Sarah Weeks: *Save Me a Seat* (780L)

This book will be discussed the first week of school and there will be a test.

Please choose one from the following list:

Kevin Sands: *The Blackthorn Key* (630)

Sharon Draper: *Stella by Starlight* (740)

Carole Estby Dagg; *Sweet Home Alaska* (870)

Ann Rinaldi: *The Staircase* (590)

Jean Craighead George: *My Side of the Mountain* (810)

Jennifer Nielsen: *A Night Divided* (810)

Lucy Maud Montgomery: *Ann of Green Gables* (970)

Frances Hodgson Burnett: *The Secret Garden* (970)

A Reading Journal Entry should be done for *Save Me a Seat* and one of your chosen books. The journal entry should be typed and each entry on a separate page.

The Journal Entries are due Friday August 30th.

Format:

Student's name Date

Title of Book Author

Setting of the story (time period and geographic location (at least 1-2 sentences)

Favorite Character and 2 reasons why (at least 2 sentences)

Favorite part of book and 3 reasons why (at least 3 sentences)

Things the student would change about the book and 2 reasons why (at least 2 sentences)

Character the student would want to have as a friend and 3 reasons why (at least 3 sentences)



ENTERING 6TH GRADE

Required:

Korman, Gordon: Restart

This book will be discussed the first week of school and there will be a test.

Cynthia Lord: Rules (780L)

Please write an interview book report on this book. **It is due Friday August 30th.**

Please type your book report.

Interview book report: Pretend you are a reporter, and you are interviewing one of the main characters. Begin by writing a paragraph describing the character (no less than 5-7 sentences). Write ten questions you would like to ask the character and answer the questions from the character's point of view. You will tell the plot/story through the questions and answers (answers should be no less than 3-5 sentences).

Choose one of the following books to read:

Laurie Halie Anderson: Chains (780L)

Sharon Creech: The Wanderer (830L)

Shannon Hale: The Princess Academy (890L)

Christopher Paul Curtis: Elijah of Buxton (1070L)

Gary Paulson: Hatchet (1020L)

Gary D. Schmidt: The Wednesday Wars (990L)

E.L. Konigsburg: The View from Saturday (870L)

Lois Lowery: Number the Stars (670L) *IF you read this in 5th grade please choose another book.

Rebecca Stead: When You Reach Me (750L)

Corneila Funke: Inkheart (780L)

Write a book report on the chosen book. In the first three paragraphs include information about the setting, main characters, and plot. In the fourth paragraph discuss the problem and resolution of the problem. In the final paragraph write a review of the book. What did you like about the book? Who might enjoy reading this book? Paragraphs should include a minimum of 5-7 sentences.

Due: Friday August 30th.



ENTERING 7TH GRADE

REQUIRED:

*Hinton, S.E.: The Outsiders (750L)

This book will be discussed the first week of school and there will be a test.

Park, Linda Sue: A Long Walk to Water (720L)

Students should prepare a one-page summary (double-spaced, size 12 font).

Riordan, Rick Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (740L)

Students should prepare a one-page summary (double-space, size 12 font).

ADDITIONALLY, choose one character from one of the selected summer reading novels and create a one-pager that reflects the following:

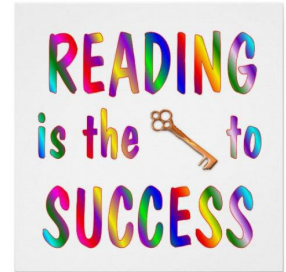
1. Basic Information: Name, Age, and a description of their appearance.
2. Personality: List a few words that describe the character's personality, such as brave, kind, funny.
3. Actions and Decisions: Think about what the characters in the story do and why they do it.
4. Relationships: Write down who the character is friends with, who they don't get along with, and explain why.
5. Changes: Describe how the character changes from the beginning to the end of the novel.
6. Symbols: Look for things in the story that represent the character, such as a special object that has meaning.
7. Reflection: Write a sentence or two that explains what you've learned about the character.
8. Visual Representation: Draw images that represent the character's appearance, personality, and role in the text. Include relevant scenes from the text.
9. Layout and Design: Arrange the information and images on a single page in an organized and visually appealing manner. To be done on an 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper. Use color, font styles, and spacing to make it easy to read and understand.

Due: Friday, August 30th.

**The Outsiders* has long been a classic of middle school classrooms. It tells the story of two rival groups of teenagers in Oklahoma in the 60s, who are divided by class. It has great themes about fitting in, social struggles, standing up for your friends, how our circumstances do or don't shape us, and how economic status shouldn't dictate how we see people.

There is violence in the book as well as mention of alcohol and smoking. These things aren't glorified in any way; the book shows how they damage lives and cause great distress. As they come up, we will discuss them through the lens of our Catholic faith.

If parents would like to choose to not have their child read this selection, please contact the school.



ENTERING 8TH GRADE

Required:

*Golding, William: Lord of the Flies (770L)

This book will be discussed the first week of school and there will be a test.

Lewis, C.S.: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (940L)

After reading the novel, students are to write a five-paragraph essay, using quotes and concrete examples, exploring how Aslan is similar to Christ.

Lois Lowry: The Giver (760L)

After reading the novel, students are to write a five-paragraph essay on one of the following topics: 1. Write an essay that shows how The Giver uses symbolism to show important themes in this novel. 2. Write an essay that shows how The Giver creates an environment of sameness. 3. Write an essay that explains the Community's reasons for relinquishing color, personal freedoms, and love in the society.

Due: Friday August 30th.

**Lord of the Flies* has long been a classic of middle school classrooms. It tells the story of a group of young boys who are alone on a deserted island. They develop rules and a system of organization, but without adults to serve as a civilizing impulse, the children eventually become violent and brutal. Its themes of law and order, civility, and mob mentality are sure to resonate with young readers.

In the book, there is profanity, lurid passages about sex, and statements defamatory to minorities, God, women, and the disabled. These things are not glorified in any way. As they come up, we will discuss them through the lens of our Catholic faith.

If parents would like to choose to not have their child read this selection, please contact the school.



"It's called 'reading'. It's how people install new software into their brains"