

School of St. Mary

Summer Reading

Entering 5th grade



This summer, please read and complete:

- One book of your choice (that you haven't previously read) from the attached list.
- Complete the attached sheet on the novel.
- As you read, consider our theme this year: "We Are All One Body." This theme focuses on topics like teamwork, working together, supporting each other, and seeing Jesus in others.

Free Choice Book List:

The reading level listed indicates the approximate reading level in school years. For example, a 4.5 would mean halfway through 4th grade.

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate (RL: 3.3)

Genre: Fantasy

Inspired by the true story of a captive gorilla known as Ivan, this illustrated novel is told from the point-of-view of Ivan himself. Having spent 27 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.

The Sisters Grimm: The Fairy Tale Detectives #1 (RL: 4.5)

Genre: Mystery, Fantasy

In the tradition of Lemony Snicket's "Series of Unfortunate Events" and Holly Black's "The Spiderwick Chronicles" comes a new humorous mystery of fantastic circumstances, "The Sisters Grimm." When orphaned sisters Sabrina and Daphne are sent to live with their mysterious grandmother, Relda Grimm, who lives in a strange town in New York state, known for its extraordinary number of unexplained and unusual crimes, they begin to unravel a mystery that leads to their ancestors' magical beginnings. Sabrina and Daphne find out they are descendants of the Brothers Grimm, who were actually detectives of the magical phenomenon perpetrated by the Everafters, a parallel race of magical beings. They soon learn it is the Grimm family's legacy to keep the Everafters in line and the two sisters are the sole heirs to this challenge!

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan (RL: 4.7)

Genre: Fantasy, Mythology

Percy Jackson has ADHD, dyslexia, and a taste for trouble, so he's stuck going to a private school in upstate New York for hard-to-handle kids. If he doesn't get his life into shape, this could be the sixth school he's expelled from. Then one day, Percy's world is turned upside down. His math teacher turns into a terrifying monster who tries to kill him, he finds out his best friend is half human and half goat, and he discovers the truth behind the father he never knew: his father is the Greek god Poseidon. Now Percy is on his way to yet another school, a training camp for half-bloods on Long Island, where he finds himself at the center of a fierce battle. If he can find Zeus's missing lightning bolt within ten days, disaster will be averted. But can he do it?

By the Great Horn Spoon! By Sid Fleischman (RL: 5.1)

Genre: Historical Fiction

In this moving tale of love and adventure set in 1849, Jack's aunt is forced to sell her beloved mansion to meet her debts. She is still unable to raise enough money to pay her creditors, and Jack goes to California in search of gold in order to help her. Thus begin the wild, swashbuckling adventures of a determined 12-year-old and his intrepid butler.

The Pepins and Their Problems by Polly Horvath (RL: 6.1)

Genre: Humor

All right, Readers, get ready to solve some problems! The Pepin family seems to have plenty of them. What would you do if your cow suddenly started giving lemonade instead of milk? How would you confront toads in your shoes? The author, who has "large psychic antennae," (which means she can read your mind) wants you to "think" your solutions to her. You'll fall down laughing as she recounts other readers' suggestions. Still, the poor Pepins need to get out of their many unpredictable jams. Think you're up to the challenge?

Ida B: and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and
(Possibly) Save the World by Katherine Hannigan (RL: 6.4)

Genre: Realistic Fiction

In Wisconsin, fourth-grader Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school. Ida B is a fourth grader like no other, who's living a life like no other, with a voice like no other, and a family like no other. How does Ida B cope when outside forces attempt to derail her, her family, and her future? She just wants her life to go back to the way it was. What Ida B needs is the perfect plan to fix things.

Summer Reading Project

Title: _____

Author: _____

Describe the main characters in terms of their physical traits and character traits. Support your claims with evidence from the story. (5-7 sentences)

Choose a scene that represents this year's theme: "We Are All One Body."
Describe how your chosen scene supports this theme. (5-7 sentences) On a separate sheet, illustrate this scene in color with good detail.
