

# School of St. Mary

## Summer Reading

Entering 4<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Poppy                      By: Avi

Genre: Fiction    (4.5)

As ruler of Dimwood Forest, Ocax the hoot owl has promised to protect the mice occupying an abandoned farmhouse as long as they ask permission before moving about." Poppy, a timid dormouse, is a loyal, obedient subject-until she sees Ocax devour her fiancé and hears the owl deny her father's request to seek new living quarters. To prove that the intimidating ruler is really a phony, Poppy embarks on a dangerous and eye-opening quest, which ends with her one-on-one battle with Ocax.

The Contest: Everest #1                      By: Gordon Korman

Genre: Fiction/Adventure    (5.1)

In *The Contest*, the first installment of Gordon Korman's Everest trilogy, 20 young mountaineers vie for four spots on Summit Quest — the world's youngest team to ascend Mt. Everest. As climbers are cut from the team, tensions build, personalities clash and the remaining hopefuls struggle to deal with their own fears and weaknesses. This gripping story will have readers holding their breath — especially since we know from the prologue that one of the climbers doesn't make it off the mountain.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By: Roald Dahl

Genre: Fiction/Fantasy (4.8)

Each of five children lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory takes advantage of the situation in his own way.

Tales of the Fourth Grade Nothing

By: Judy Blume

Genre: Realistic Fiction (3.3)

Peter Hatcher has a terrible problem--his two-year-old little brother.

School Days According to Humphrey

By: Betty G. Birney

Genre: Fiction (4)

Humphrey is puzzled when students fill Mrs. Brisbane's classroom at summer's end, but he soon learns his friends from last year are fine and that the new class needs his special help

The Lemonade War

By: Jacqueline Davies

Genre: Fiction (4.1)

Evan Treski and his younger sister, Jessie, get along well in many ways. They play together, and their natural talents are complementary. Jessie is a whiz in math and other school subjects, but feelings were her weakest subject. Evan is competent in the social arena, but he is not such a good student. Their relationship changes the summer between Evan's third and fourth grades, when

a letter arrives announcing what the boy sees as total disaster for him. He and his bright, skipping-third-grade sister will be in the same class. Thus begins the Lemonade War over which child can make the most money during the last week before school. The story is highly readable and engaging, filled with real-life problems that relate to math, getting along with siblings and friends, dealing with pride, and determining right from wrong. It even gives a glimpse into the marketing world. Each chapter begins with a marketing term, defined, but implemented as only competing children can. The result is a funny, fresh, and plausible novel with likable characters, and is suitable for reluctant readers.—*Maria B. Salvadore, formerly at Washington DC Public Library*

Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin

By Liesl Shurtliff

Genre: Fantasy (4.4)

Relates the tale of Rumpelstiltskin's childhood and youth, explaining why his name is so important, how he is able to spin straw into gold, and why a first-born child is his reward for helping the miller's daughter-turned-queen.

The Fourteenth Goldfish

By: Holm, Jennifer L.

Genre: Fiction (4.2)

Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging and consequently has turned into a teenager, which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.

