

ATTENTION: ALL PARENTS GRADES Pre-K THRU 7!!!!

St. Philomena School Summer Reading Program - Summer 2019

Soon the final dismissal bell of the school year will ring and signal the beginning of summer vacation. While students are thinking about sleeping in and long, lazy days at the pool, parents and teachers are thinking about how to prevent "summer slide," where students lose academic ground because they may not be as educationally stimulated as they are during the school year. The statistics about summer learning loss are concrete and show the importance of keeping your child reading and academically active during the summer months.

Here are the facts:

- Students can lose up to 25% of their reading level over the summer.
- Students can lose up to 3 months of their academic achievement over the summer.
- This loss is cumulative, so by the time a student enters middle school or high school, he or she could be years behind grade-level standards.

Here's the Good News! "Summer slide" can be prevented...by reading! Reading just a few books over the summer can prevent summer learning loss and can actually increase a student's reading level.

In order to encourage and promote summer reading, the St. Philomena School **Summer Reading Program** is required for all current and incoming students who will be in grades kindergarten through 8th next year. This program is a REQUIREMENT of every student and family. Your child's teacher for next year will assess your child's completion of the program through a graded reading log, test, or project during the first week of school next September.

All required summer reading books are quality classics, well-known, in print, and readily available at the public library, in book stores, and online through book sellers like Amazon.com.

Our hope is that every school family will embrace the summer reading program as a way for students to have fun AND grow in their reading skills over their summer break. Please email Dr. Morissette or your child's new teacher if you have any questions. Thank you!



Let's have a fun and safe summer and keep those academic skills sharp!

HAPPY SUMMER AND HAPPY READING!

The list of the required reading for each grade follows on the back of this letter:

Required Reading for Grades Kindergarten through 8th

♥Incoming Kindergarteners: All students must read (or have read to them) any 10 books by the authors listed below and then complete (with parent help), the Reading Log (see attached).

♥Incoming 1st Graders: All students must read (or have read to them) Blueberries for Sal (by Robert McCloskey) **AND** any 9 books by the authors listed below. Then complete the Reading Log (see attached) independently or with a bit of parent help.

K & 1st Grade Authors to Choose from: Verna Aardema, Jan & Stan Berenstain, Jan Brett, Marc Brown, Margaret Wise Brown, Eve Bunting, Eric Carle, Joanne Cole, Tomie dePaola, Kevin Henkes, Ezra Jack Keats, Stephen Kellogg, Leo Lionni, Arnold Lobel, Bill Martin, Jr., Laura Numeroff, Peggy Parish, Patricia Polacco, Margaret Rey, David Shannon, Dr. Seuss, Chris Van Allsburg, Judith Viorst, Rosemary Wells, and Charlotte Zolotow

♥Incoming 2nd Graders: All students must read (independently or with some parent help) Nate the Great and the Big Sniff (by Mitchell & Marjorie Sharmat) **AND EITHER** one Magic Tree House series book (by Mary Pope Osborne), **OR** one Junie B. Jones series book (by Barbara Park). The students will be given an Accelerated Reader (A.R.) test on these stories during the first week of school.

♥Incoming 3rd Graders: All students must read Freckle Juice (by Judy Blume) (Students **MUST** also bring this book to class in the fall.) **AND ONE** of the following choices: Henry Huggins (by Beverly Cleary), Frindle (by Andrew Clements), or Bunnicula: A Rabbit Tale of Mystery (by James Howe). The students will be given an Accelerated Reader (A.R.) test on these stories during the first week of school.

♥Incoming 4th Graders: All students must read Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes (by Eleanor Coerr) **AND** one intermediate-level biography (such as the Who Was? books). The students will be required to take an AR test on both books that they read.

♥Incoming 5th Graders: All students must read The Phantom Tollbooth (by Norton Juster) Students must bring this book to class in the fall. **AND** any ONE book (by Roald Dahl) such as Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator, Danny the Champion of the World, Fantastic Mr. Fox, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, The BFG, or The Witches.

♥Incoming 6th Graders: All students must read Holes (by Louis Sachar) **AND** one of the following books: The Lemonade War (by Jacqueline Davies), Rules (by Cynthia Lord), The Boggart (by Susan Cooper), or The Westing Game (by Ellen Raskin), for a total of 2 books.

♥Incoming 7th Graders: All students must read) The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley and Zane and the Hurricane (by Rodman Philbrick) **AND** one of the following choices: Things Not Seen (by Andrew Clements), Restart by Gordon Korman or I am Malala (by Malala Yousafzai) for a total of 3 books and complete the online report assigned by Dr. Morissette.

♥Incoming 8th Graders: All students must read one free choice book (approved by Mrs. Hoyer) **AND** one of the following books: Chains (by Laurie Halse Anderson), Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet (by Jamie Ford), Peak (by Roland Smith), or The Boys in the Boat (by Daniel James Brown), and complete the online report assigned by Mrs. Hoyer.