

May 15, 2009

Dear Parents,

It is once again time for our summer reading packets. Each 5th grade student is required to read one book over summer break. The students will also complete four journal pages and one project for their book. Enclosed is a list of acceptable books, journal pages with instructions, and a list of project choices. Our hope is that each student will find a project that is enjoyable for each of their many talents. Please have your students bring their journals and projects to their reading teacher on the first day of the 2009-2010 school year. We appreciate your support. We will also post this packet on the St. Agnes Website. Have a safe and wonderful summer break.

God Bless,
The 5th Grade Teachers

Reading list for upcoming fifth graders

The Landry News by Andrew Clements
The School Story by Andrew Clements
The Janitor's Boy by Andrew Clements
Frindle by Andrew Clements
The BFG by Roald Dahl
Matilda by Roald Dahl
Shoeless Joe and Me by Dan Gutman
Ginger Pye by Elanor Estes
Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech
The Wanderer by Sharon Creech
The Ear, The Eye, and the Arm by Nancy Farmer
Abel's Island by William Steig
Locomotion Jacqueline Woodson
The School Story by Andrew Clements

The Land of the Big Red Apple by Lea MacBride
The Little House Series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Holes by Lois Sachar
The Ravenmaster's Secret by Eivira Woodruff
Dear America/My Name is America (series)
Series of Unfortunate Events (series) Lemony Snickett

Reading List for stronger readers

Chasing Redbird by Sharon Creech
Hoot by Carl Hiaasen
A Corner of the Universe by Ann M. Martin
Everything on a Waffle by Polly Horvath
Shoeless Joe and Me by Dan Gutman
Ginger Pye by Elanor Estes
Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech
The Wanderer by Sharon Creech
Don't You Know There's a War On? By Avi
Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff
Island of the Blue Dolphin by Scott O'Dell
Dear America/My Name is America (series)
Series of Unfortunate Events (series) Lemony Snickett
Whales on Stilts by M. T. Anderson
The Ear, The Eye, and the Arm by Nancy Farmer

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
Letters from Rifka by Karen Hesse
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi
Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan
Guardians of Ga'hoole (series) by Kathryn Lasky
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by H.G. Wells
Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi
The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
Lily's Crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff
Whales on Stilts by M. T. Anderson

Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
Taking Liberty by Ann Rinaldi
A Girl Named Disaster by Nancy Farmer
Once Upon a Marigold by Jean Ferris
Stravaganza City of Masks by Mary Hoffman
The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Other Reading Suggestions: 5th Grade

- A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L 'Engle
- Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
- Lilly's Crossing by Patricia Giff
- The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman
- The Ear, the Eye and the Arm by Nancy Farmer
- Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
- Dear Mr. Henshaw
- Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson
- Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George
- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O'Brien
- Holes by Louis Sachar
- On My Honor by Marion Dane Bauer
- The Pinballs by Betsy Byars
- Summer of the Monkeys by Wilson Rawls
- The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White
- The Incredible Journey by Sheila Bumford
- Old Yeller by Fred Gipson
- The Gregor Series by Suzanne Collins
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
- The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman
- Something Fishy at McDonald Hall by Gordan Korman
- The Outsiders by Hinton
- The Egypt Game by Snyder
- Esperanza Rising by Ryan
- Let the Circle be Unbroken by Mildred D. Taylor
- Under the Lilacs by Louisa May Alcott
- Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
- Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
- Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
- Everything on a Waffle by Polly Horvath
- Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine
- Hoot by Carl Hiaasen
- Princess Academy by Shannon Hale
- Rules by Cynthia Lord
- The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread by Kate DiCamillo

Response Journal Guidelines for Students

- Take time to write down anything in relation to the text. If you're intrigued by certain statements or if you're attracted to characters or issues or problems, write your response. Try to take at least five minutes to write when you've finished an assignment or when you've put your book down for a break. You may want to write something that strikes you then.
- Make connections with your own experience. What does the reading make you think of? Does it remind you of anything or anyone?
- Make connections with other texts or concepts or events. Do you see any similarities between this text (concepts, events) and other texts (concepts, events)? Does it bring to mind other related issues?
- Ask yourself questions about the text: What perplexes you about a particular passage? Try beginning, "I wonder why..." or "I'm having trouble understanding how..." or "It perplexes me that..." or "I was surprised when"
- Try agreeing with the writer. Write down the supporting ideas. Try arguing with the writer. On what points, or about what issues, do you disagree? Think of your journal as a place to carry on a dialogue with the writer or with the text in which you actually speak with him or her. Ask questions; have the writer respond. What happens when you imagine yourself in his/her shoes?
- Write down striking words, images, phrases, or details. Speculate about them. Why did the author choose them? What do they add to the story? Why did you notice them? Divide your notebook page in half and copy words from the text onto the left side; write your responses on the right. On a first reading you might put checks in the margin where the passages intrigue you; on the second reading, choose the most interesting ideas, then write about them.
- Describe the author's point of view. How does the author's attitude shape the way the writer presents the material?

Name: _____ Book Title: _____

Reader Response Journal

Date and Page Number	
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Name: _____ Book Title: _____

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Projects:

- *Make a timeline of the events of the story. Explain it.
- *Make a comic book based on the book.
- *Design the front page of a newspaper with headlines and a story about what happened in the book.
- *Pretend you are a movie critic. Criticize the book as if it were a movie.
- *Sketch a portrait of a character and write one of the characters in the story.
- *Make a map of the area where the story took place. Indicate where each event occurred and be sure to include a key.
- *Construct a scrapbook of your favorite character. Explain it.
- *Write and illustrate a children's book summarizing the story for someone younger.
- *Write a letter to the author giving your reactions to the book.