

Saints Peter and Paul School

Summer Reading Program

Entering Fourth Grade

Directions: Students are required to read 2 books over the summer. One selection is fiction, and the other selection is non-fiction. Students will complete a written assignment on both books in September.

Required Reading:

Fiction Selection:

Punished by David Lubar

Logan isn't grounded but he is...pun-ished. Offending a mysterious old man in the reference section Logan uncontrollably spouts puns. Soon he's in big trouble with his parents, teachers and even his best friend. To end this vocabulary voodoo, Logan must complete three quests in record time involving oxymorons, anagrams, and palindromes. Hysterical pun fun!

Non-fiction Selection:

Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship

The inspiring true story of two great friends, a baby hippo named Owen and a 130-yr-old giant tortoise named Mzee (Mm-ZAY). When Owen was stranded after the Dec 2004 tsunami, villagers in Kenya worked tirelessly to rescue him. Then, to everyone's amazement, the orphan hippo and the elderly tortoise adopted each other. Now they are inseparable, swimming, eating, and playing together. Adorable photos e-mailed from friend to friend quickly made them worldwide celebrities. Here is a joyous reminder that in times of trouble, friendship is stronger than the differences that too often pull us apart.

Recommended Reading:

Students could pick a biography from the *Who was...?* series. You will recognize the funny caricatures that decorate each cover. From William Shakespeare to The Beatles, Queen Elizabeth to Anne Frank--there is someone for everyone. This series includes 42 books, and they are readily available at the Amherst Public Libraries.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, Judy Blume

Students will enjoy the first of the "Fudge" books in this Judy Blume tale. Millions of fans young and old have been entertained by the quick wit of Peter Hatcher, the hilarious antics of mischievous Fudge, and the unbreakable confidence of know-it-all Sheila Tubman.

The One and Only Ivan - Katherine Applegate

Ivan is an easygoing gorilla. Living at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade, he has grown accustomed to humans watching him through the glass walls of his domain. He rarely misses his life in the jungle. In fact, he hardly ever thinks about it at all. Instead, Ivan thinks about TV shows he's seen and about his friends Stella, an elderly elephant, and Bob, a stray dog. But mostly Ivan thinks about art and how to capture the taste of a mango or the sound of leaves with color and a well-placed line. Then he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from her family, and she makes Ivan see their home—and his own art—through new eyes. When Ruby arrives, change comes with her, and it's up to Ivan to make it a change for the better.

The BFG - Roald Dahl Captured by a giant! The BFG is no ordinary bone-crunching giant. He is far too nice and jumbly. It's lucky for Sophie that he is. Had she been carried off in the middle of the night by the Bloodbottler, the Fleshlumpeater, the Bonecruncher, or any of the other giants-rather than the BFG-she would have soon become breakfast. When Sophie hears that they are flush-bunking off in England to swollomp a few nice little chiddlers, she decides she must stop them once and for all. And the BFG is going to help her!

The Cricket in Times Square – George Selden

This Newbery Honor Book tells the story of Chester, a cricket from Connecticut, and his friendship with a little boy named Mario, a mouse named Tucker, and a cat named Harry in New York's Times Square. Chester, a musical cricket from rural Connecticut, finds himself transported (via a picnic basket) to the grit and grime of New York City. When Mario Bellini, a boy from the neighborhood, finds Chester, he raises the insect as his own. Chester soon meets Mario's animal friends, Tucker and Harry, and learns about life on the streets. And when Mario's parents are faced with the bankruptcy of their subway newsstand, the friends try to come up with a plan to save it from disaster. Williams' detailed and colorful images brighten the harshness of big city life. Readers will enjoy this comical tale of life in the gritty city, and the devotion shared among friends. A Newbery Honor Book

Author: Louis Sachar

Wayside Arithmetic Series