

Plant a seed...READ!

June 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

Summer is a great time for kids to read. With no school and no homework, there are usually plenty of extra hours to fill. Encourage your child to fill those hours with reading. Studies have shown that children who read during their summer vacation retain more of what they have learned throughout the school year and are better prepared for that first day of school in the fall. A love of reading will provide a lifetime of pleasure and learning.

You can encourage children to become avid summer readers by giving them lots of reading choices. Provide books, magazines, and newspapers. Have them read silently or aloud to you or to a brother or sister. Read while your child reads to make it a fun family activity. Plan weekly trips to your public library to select new books and to participate in their programs.

This year's summer reading program is called **Plant a Seed ... and Read**. With so much literature available on so many topics, I encourage you students to read books from a variety of genres.

All students entering Kindergarten through Eighth grade are strongly urged to participate in the summer reading program. By reading over the summer, the students will keep their reading skills sharp and nourish a healthy pastime.

This packet contains a list of suggested authors for each elementary grade cluster, the required books for students entering the Fourth through Eighth grades, a reading card on which the students in grades Kindergarten through Five can record their titles, and the writing assignments for the

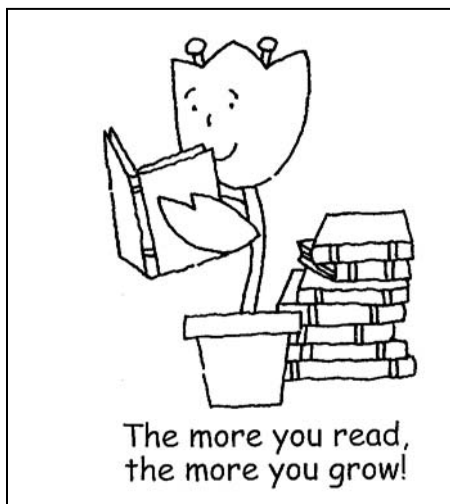
required reading for students entering grades Four through Eight. Again this year, students entering grades Five through Eight can pick their required book(s) from a short list of titles.

I would recommend that students who do not know how to read be read to for at least fifteen minutes a day. This will provide you with great quiet time together, while reinforcing their developing language and reading skills. For all of you readers, I would recommend reading a half hour to an hour every day.

During the first week of school, all students should turn in their summer reading written assignments and/or cards/lists. Acknowledgements will be given to all who participate.

Remember:

- Students must read books on their reading level.
- A parent/guardian must sign the reading card.
- Students entering Grades Four through Eight must read the required title(s) and complete the written assignments.
- Please, color the reading card as they will be displayed outside the Library.
- This summer reading packet is available on the school's website.



Have a wonderful summer
full of fun, sun and
reading!

Mrs. Buckley, Librarian



Biography

Author:

Title

Mystery

Author:

Title:

A Favorite

Author:

Title:

Fantasy

Author:

Title:

Adventure

Author:

Title:

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Parent's Signature: _____

Read a book from each genre:

Comedy Historical fiction Magazines

Animals Poetry Fun facts

AUTHOR	TITLE
6.	_____
7.	_____
8.	_____
9.	_____
10.	_____
11.	_____
12.	_____
13.	_____
14.	_____
15.	_____
16.	_____

St. Bridget School 2009 Summer Reading List Students Entering Grades 4 - 5

Required Books

For Students Entering Grade 4:

The Miraculous Adventures of Edward Tulane, by Kate DiCamillo (fairy tale)

Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.

For Students Entering Grade 5:

Read one book from this list:

Matilda, by Roald Dahl (humor)

Poor, misunderstood Matilda fights back against an unappreciative world through a hidden talent: Matilda is the world's greatest practical joker! Little effort is needed to put one over on her obnoxious parents, but can shy little Matilda handle the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and win the respect of every kid in school?

Half Magic, by Edward Eager (fantasy)

Faced with a dull summer in the city, Jane, Mark, Katharine, and Martha suddenly find themselves involved in a series of extraordinary adventures after Jane discovers an ordinary-looking coin that seems to grant wishes.

Island of the Blue Dolphins, by Scott O'Dell (realistic fiction)

Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.

The Reluctant Dragon, by Kenneth Grahame (fantasy)

The story of the last dragon on earth who is far more interested in reading and writing poetry than pillaging villages as dragons of old always did. Even though St. George, the dragon slayer, is called in to slay the dragon because of the bad reputation of all dragons who snort fire and cause danger, the village sees his good qualities and allows him to remain.

List of Suggested Authors

Avi
Banks, Lynne Reid
Baum, Frank L. (classics)
Blume, Judy
Burnett, Frances (classics)
Byars, Betsy
Cleary, Beverly
Clements, Andrew (realistic fiction)
Colfer, Eoin (fantasy)

Coville, Bruce (fantasy)
Creech, Sharon (realistic fiction)
Curtis, Christopher Paul
Dahl, Roald (humor)
DiCamillo, Kate
Dixon, Franklyn W. (mystery)
Estes, Eleanor
Fleischman, Sid
Fritz, Jean (historical fiction)

Gantos, Jack
Juster, Norton
Keene, Carolyn (mystery)
King-Smith, Dick (animal)
Kipling, Rudyard (classics)
Konigsburg, E. L.
L'Engle, Madeleine
Levin, Gail Carson
Lewis, C. S. (fantasy)
Lord, Betty Bao
Lowry, Lois (realistic fiction)
MacLachlan, Patricia
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Newbery Award titles
Norton, Mary
O'Dell, Scott
Park, Barbara
Paterson, Katherine
Prelutsky, Jack (poetry)

Raskin, Ellen
Riordan, Rick
Rowling, J. K. (fantasy)
Rylant, Cynthia
Sachar, Louis (humor)
Seldon, George
Sewell, Anna (classics)
Silverstein, Shel (poetry)
Snickett, Lemony (humorous)
Snyder, Zilpha Snyder
Spinelli, Jerry
Taylor, Theodore
Tolkien, J. R. R. (fantasy)
White, E. B.
Wilder, Laura Ingalls (classics)
Winthrop, Elizabeth
Wooding, Chris
Woodruff, Elvira
Yep, Laurence

Summer Reading Assignment for Students Entering Grade 4

Read The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane. The students need to keep a journal in the first person, as if they were Edward. Students should write a journal entry for each of their **five** favorite chapters. The journal will be collected the first week of school.

Students must be prepared to discuss the story the first week of school in their literature class.

Summer Reading Assignment for Students Entering Grade 5

Complete three projects from the attached "Fantasy Projects" packet carefully following all directions. The fantasy projects and the whole packet will be collected the first week of school.