



Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

Summer reading is important for students and is a great way to relax. Research studies have shown that children reading 30 to 60 minutes a day increases their reading and comprehension skills, which benefits every subject area. So, sit out on the porch or lay in a hammock and get reading.

During the summer, each student must read two books, one that I have selected for them and a second one from the list provided. The activity that they have to complete is a packet for either *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimb*, *Stewart Little* or *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*. A verification form must also be signed. Book list, packet information and verification form are all attached.

During the month of August, we will continue to unwrap the three novels and dig deeper using a variety of literature strategies. The reading packet that the students will be completing is just a snap shot of what the year will hold. This summer we will focus on main idea, setting, character, and summary.

The packet and verification form must be turned in by the end of the first week back. If anything gets misplaced, you can find copies on our St. Mary's website under the drop down menu for Summer Reading. If you have any questions, please email me at rgordy@stmarys-school.org. Be sure to write Summer Reading in the subject line.

Students can also stay on top of other subject areas by joining **Moby Max**. This is a great site that build skills in all subject areas. There is a link on my website, just go to my Tech Lesson page and look under the *General Sites* heading. This link is attached to my login which has a unique path only for my students. Their login will be the same as what they use for AR at school. Our focus when we return in August will be Math, Language, Reading Skills of Literature and Informational and Fundamental Reading, but feel free to have your student work on Science, Social Studies or any other areas.

God bless,
Mrs. Gordy

Students,

I have divided the book that you are reading into 5 sections. You don't have to read a section a day, but I don't want you to wait too long between days of reading. Before you get started reading a new section, read over the assignment for that part of the book. That way, you have an idea of what you are going to be doing at the end.

When working each assignment in the packet, be sure to use your best handwriting. You may write in cursive or in print. It is completely up to you. **JUST BE NEAT.** Think things through before you put pen to paper. I don't want to see a lot of mistakes. Always check your spelling and be sure to write in complete sentences, with correct punctuation, when allotted space is given.

Title of Book

Chapters of Each Section

Packet Activity (6 total)

When finished with everything....

Have fun with it!
Mrs. Gordy

Great Reads for 2017

WEDNESDAY WAYS by Gary D. Schmidt BL 5.9

It's 1967, and on Wednesdays, every Jewish kid in Holling Hoodhood's class goes to Hebrew School, and every Catholic kid goes to Catechism. Holling is Presbyterian, which means that he and Mrs. Baker are alone together every Wednesday—and she hates it just as much as he does.

THE CRICKET IN TIMES SQUARE George Seldon BL 4.9

After Chester, a cricket, arrives in the Times Square subway station from his native Connecticut via a picnic basket, he takes up residence in the Bellinis' newsstand.

THE MISSING MANATEE by Cynthia DeFelice BL 4.9

11-year-old Skeet Waters was excited about spring vacation in his Florida home, but his hopes are soon dashed by the fact that his parents are splitting up. After hearing this news, Skeet finds a dead manatee. When he returns from getting help. The manatee is missing. Now he has to solve the crime.

THE THINGS ABOUT GEORGIE by Lisa Graff BL 4.3

Georgie has a height issue. As a dwarf, nine-year-old Georgie will not get much taller than his current 42 inches. Besides that Georgie has other worries. His mother is expecting a baby and he knows that the brother/sister will soon outgrow him.

THE HOMEWORK MACHINE by Dan Gutman BL 4.8

Four very different students are bound together by a secret - Brenton has created a homework machine. Readers will enjoy this dramatic and thought-provoking story that packs a strong message about honesty and friendship.

DEXTER THE TOUGH by Margaret Peterson Haddix BL 4.2

Dexter's introduction to his new school and fourth-grade class is not a good one. He slips in the hall on the newly waxed floor and the other students laugh at him. He then goes into the restroom and punches classmate Robin.

ROXIE AND THE HOOLIGANS by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor BL 5.3

Poor nine-year-old Roxie is the target of the class bullies known as Helvetia's Hooligans. They have chosen her to be the Victim of the Year because her ears stick out.

THE FOLK KEEPER by Franny Billingsley BL 5.3

Corinna is a folk keeper --- in charge of keeping the wild Folk who live beneath the human world under control. Even though she has a good sense of what she is, Corinna can't quite figure out WHO she is. Come along as she discovers where she --- and her unusual powers --- came from.

DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT THE WAR by David A. Adler BL NA

13-year-old Tommy Duncan just wants to root for the Brooklyn Dodgers and listen to the radio. But it's 1940 and the world is changing. All his friend Beth wants to do is talk about the war in Europe. That's an ocean away, though, and Tommy has more immediate concerns --- like Beth looking pretty and his mother's declining health. The stories of a Jewish friend at school, however, begin to make the war more real to him.

SMILES TO GO

by Jerry Spinelli

BL NA

What is stargazer, skateboarder, chess champ, pepperoni pizza eater, older brother, sister hater, best friend, first kisser, science geek, control freak Will Tuppence so afraid of in this great big universe?

THE MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE

by Kate DiCamillo BL 4.4

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

PRINCESS ACADEMY

by Shannon Hale

BL 6.0

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

HEAT

by Mike Lupica

BL 5.3

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof.

DRUMS, GIRLS AND DANGEROUS PIE

by Jordan Sonnenblick

BL 5.9

The life of eighth-grader Steven Alper, already complicated by his friendship with two girls and a prodigious talent for drumming, is turned upside down when his five-year-old brother Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia.

Fifth Grade Suggested Authors
For Summer Reading:

Erin Hunter	
Suzanne Collins (The Hunger Games and Gregor series)	
Gitty Daneshvari (School of Fear series)	
Carl Hiaasen	Patrick Jennings
Natalie Babbi	Henry Winkler
Eoin Colfer	P. B. Kerr
Paula Danziger	Kate DiCamillo
Cynthia DeFelice	Eve Bunting
Laura Dower	Cornelia Funke
Patricia Reilly Giff	Lois Lowry
DJ McHale	Jerry Spinelli
Phyllis Reynold Naylor	Lemony Snicket
Christopher Paolini	J. K. Rowling
Louis Sachar	George Selden

Note: You may choose to read a book from the authors listed above or from the list of books provided. Just try and stay within your reading range.

