

Saints Peter and Paul School

Summer Reading Program

Entering Fourth Grade: Mrs. Zuccaro/Mrs. Griffasi

Directions: Students must read the required reading book and complete a summer reading assignment in the fall. We encourage students to read at least one book from the recommended reading list.

Required Reading:

James and the Giant Peach, Roald Dahl

Poor James had the perfect life until his parents encountered a hungry rhinoceros. He must go live with his horrible Aunt Spiker and Aunt Sponge. James' life becomes miserable. One day while running from his aunts, James meets a mysterious old man who gives him a bag of powerful crystals. James accidentally spills the crystals on a peach tree, and this starts the ball—or the peach—rolling! As the peach grows, the crazy adventure begins. Will James' return to his awful aunts? Read to find out.

Recommended Reading:

Matilda, Roald Dahl

Here's another humorous and exciting tale from Roald Dahl. Matilda is a brilliant five year old girl; she can multiply triple digits and read classic novels. Unfortunately, her parents can't figure out why Matilda won't spend more time in front of the t.v. and less time in the library. Miss Trunchbowl, the school principal, doesn't exactly appreciate Matilda either. Miss Honey, Matilda's teacher is the one adult who understands her and her magic. You'll love the practical jokes Matilda's able to pull when she and Miss Honey become a team.

Dive series, Everest series or Island series(3 consecutive books in each), Gordon Korman

If you like survival stories like *Flight 29 Down*, you'll love these books. Gordon Korman writes the best adventure books for young people. These books are full of suspense, action and realistic details. In the *Dive* series four kids--boys and girls—try to raise the treasure of a 17th century ship from the bottom of the sea. But, they're not the only ones who want the loot. They must outwit modern-day pirates to get this treasure. In *Everest* a group of four tries to become the youngest team ever to ascend Mount Everest. As they get closer to the summit they confront frostbite, blizzards and sabotage. In *Island* a group of kids participates in a month long study on a deserted island. On their way to the island a dangerous storm blows in. The captain is swept overboard and the first mate abandons them taking the only life raft. The kids are left on the stormy seas in a sinking ship. How can they survive? These books are so well researched and written, they absolutely read like nonfiction.

The 100-Year-Old Secret (The Sherlock Files), Tracy Barret

If you love a good mystery, look no further. 12-year-old Xena Holmes and her brother, Xander, the great-great-great grandchildren of detective extraordinaire Sherlock Holmes, have just moved to the city of London.. They are playing a favorite game, guessing strangers' occupations in front of their hotel when a strange man delivers a note written in disappearing ink directing them to the Dancing Men Pub. At the pub their famous relative is revealed to them, and they receive his "Unsolved Cases" notebook. Xena, immediately intrigued, finds a case that still could be solved. And the adventure begins.

No Talking, Andrew Clements

You may be used to hearing this from you teachers, but from your whole class? Well,

Dave Packer's fifth-grade classmates are so loud and chatty that the teachers call them "The Unshushables." Dave has just read about Mahatma Gandhi and learned that the man practiced silence one day a week to bring order to his mind. Dave loves to talk like everybody else, but he's determined to give this idea a try. To make this test a bit more exciting, Dave, along with all the boys, challenges his nemesis Lynsey, and all the girls, to a no-talking contest for 48 hours. The teachers and administrators are baffled by this behavior. As the leader, Dave must decide how far this contest will go.

The Water Horse, Dick King-Smith

"This is the story of a young Scottish girl, Kirstie, and her brother, Angus, who find a mysterious egg washed up on shore after a storm. They take it home and to their delight, this "mermaid's purse" hatches into a lovable sea monster they call Crusoe. It keeps growing and growing until finally it becomes too big to live anywhere but in nearby Loch Ness. Sound familiar? If you enjoy animal stories, you'll love this one. The characters are believable and, since King-Smith relates events from the point of view of the water horse as well as those of Kirstie and her family, you'll get to know the friendly, not-at-all-fearsome monster."

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, Judy Bloom

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing is the first in a series of entertaining, humorous stories by Judy Blume. "Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother, Fudgie, to be an ever increasing problem. Because he's the oldest, Peter must deal with Fudgie's disgusting cuteness, his constant meddling with Peter's stuff, and other awful offenses, one of which is almost too much to bear." You will laugh out loud at Fudgie's antics and perhaps sympathize with poor, tormented Peter.

