

Saints Peter and Paul

Summer Reading Program

Entering Fifth Grade: Ms. Maugans/Mrs. Quinn

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 Book:

Kenny and the Dragon, Tony Diterlizzi

When Kenny's father tells him of a ferocious creature, Kenny is hardly frightened. He's actually curious; he wants to meet the beast that "eats pretty maidens and burns castles to the ground." Although Kenny is just a rabbit, he's one smart rabbit, so his father allows him to befriend the kingdom's fierce dragon. It will be up to Kenny to save his new friend from the townspeople who want him slain. Kenny wonders, "How can they want someone killed they don't even know?" This is a funny book that will get you thinking.

Recommended Reading:

Charlotte's Web, E.B. White

When a sweet pig named Wilbur learns of the sad fate of most pigs, he asks his best friend Charlotte for help. The wise spider must spin some creative webs to save him. You'll love this bitter-sweet story of friendship.

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Jules Verne

If you like science fiction, this book is for you. While on a mission to kill a dangerous sea creature Professor Aronnax and his crew are captured by the mysterious Captain Nemo and held on his submarine, the Nautilus. The prisoners must decide if they should attempt to escape or accompany Nemo on his dangerous and exciting undersea adventures. Will they survive their perilous excursions in the Nautilus? Read to find out.

Flush, Carl Hiaasen. Set in the Florida Keys, *Flush* tells the story of Noah and his dad's battle to stop a casino boat, the Coral Queen, from dumping waste into the ocean. When Noah's dad is arrested for his "bold protests", Noah is left to fight the battle. With the help of his little sister Abby and an ex-employee of the Coral Queen, Nick hatches a crazy plan to save the beaches and his father's reputation. Could it possibly work? Read and see.

Sees Behind Trees, Michael Dorris. Walnut is a nearsighted Native American boy. Because he cannot see well, he believes he cannot pass the test of manhood in his tribe. Walnut's Uncle recognizes that Walnut's other senses are highly developed, so he develops a test called "sees behind trees." Walnut will learn that he is capable of passing the test and earning his adult name, but adulthood will demand much more of him than this test.

Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell. When a ship arrives to evacuate Karana's island, she is eager to climb aboard. But as the ship departs, Karana realizes her six year old brother has been left behind. She dives off the ship and returns to the island to rescue her brother. Karana will find herself completely alone on the island for many years fighting to survive. Based on a true story, *Island of the Blue Dolphin* is an amazing and exciting story of survival.

Dear Mr. Henshaw, Beverly Cleary. Leigh Bott's sixth grade assignment is to write a report on his favorite author. For his research Leigh writes to Mr. Henshaw, and Mr.

Henshaw actually writes back! Through their correspondence the reader learns that Leigh is struggling with being the new kid in town, adapting to his parents recent divorce and being just medium.

A Week in the Woods, Andrew Clements. Eleven year old Mark moves to a small town in New Hampshire and is quickly labeled the spoiled rich kid by classmates and teachers--Mark ignores them because he will not be attending the school for long. He spends his free time exploring the desolate New Hampshire country side. Mark reluctantly decides to attend a school camping trip supervised by his nemesis Mr. Maxwell. The trip becomes a test of wills as Mr. Maxwell and Mark try to survive *A Week in the Woods*.

Room One: A Mystery or Two, Andrew Clements. *Room One* is another school favorite by Andrew Clements. In this story Clements combines his typical, true-to-life humor with a serious, intriguing mystery--the best of both worlds. When Ted, a sixth grade boy from a small Nebraska town, sees a girl's face in the window of an old, abandoned farmhouse, he decides to investigate. He finds a girl named April, her mother and her younger brother hiding out in the house. Even stranger: the family believes that someone is following them. Ted agrees to bring them food and necessities until they are able to leave the town, but should he keep April and her family a secret?

Nonfiction Recommendations:

Face to Face with Animals series, National Geographic

Get up close to some of nature's fiercest and most intriguing animals in this vivid non-fiction series. You may recognize these books from our school library. They are full of interesting facts and amazing pictures about your favorite animals. You can choose from grizzlies, polar bears, cheetahs, sharks, lions, wild horses, gorillas, whales, wolves, dolphins, caterpillars, frogs, elephants, manatees, leopards and dolphins.