

Saints Peter and Paul School

Summer Reading Program

Entering Sixth Grade: Mrs. Ackerman/Mrs. Brierley

Directions: Students must read the required reading book and one book from the recommended reading list. They will complete a summer reading assignment in the fall.

Required Reading: Hatchet, Gary Paulsen

Imagine you are the sole survivor of a plane crash deep in the Canadian wilderness. All you have is the clothing you're wearing, a torn windbreaker and a hatchet your mother gave you as a present. Could you survive? Would you be rescued? This is the challenge 13 year old Brian Robeson confronts in the novel Hatchet. This is a chilling adventure story you won't soon forget.

Recommended Reading (Choose one):

The Red Pyramid, Rick Riordan

If you loved the Percy Jackson series, you must try this new series by the same author. Instead of the unsuspecting teenage descendants of Greek Gods trying to save the world, this time it's the unsuspecting teenage *siblings* of descendants of Egyptian Gods who have to save the world. This isn't a repeat of Percy Jackson—the genre is the same; the characters are much different. This series adds sibling rivalry to the challenges of saving the world and wielding newfound superpowers. The universe of Egyptian Gods may be less well known than their Greek counterparts, but Riordan explains it concisely. It's entertaining while informing—the recipe you devoured in Percy Jackson. You may even be inspired to read up a bit on Egyptian history and mythology while waiting for the next installment in the Series.

Penny From Heaven, Jenny L. Holm.

Penny Falucci, 11, lives with her widowed mother and maternal grandparents, but her father's large, Italian family is tremendously important to her, too. It frustrates her that no one talks about his death, but as the summer of 1953 progresses, Penny's life changes forever. The secrets behind her father's death are revealed when Aunt Gina tells her about a minor incident that had horrifying consequences for him because of the restrictions placed on Italian Americans during World War II. This is a highly recommended library favorite.

The Sisters Grimm Series, Michael Buckley You'll remember this one from our book trailers. In this series humans and fairy-tale creatures live together in rural New York. Sabrina and Daphne Grimm come to town to live with their grandmother after their parents' suspicious disappearance. The girls are immediately drawn into a mystery that includes giants, pixies, fairies, and witches. You too will have to unravel which characters each creature represents in this awesome adventure for girls *and* boys. There are several books in this series. Choose the next book if you've started the series.

The Wanderer, Sharon Creech

Calling all you Sharon Creech fans—here's another great novel by your fifth grade favorite. Against her parents' wishes, Sophie sets sail for England with her 3 uncles and two cousins. Sophie anticipates adventure, but the seas have much more in store for her. This tale of danger and suspense is told through the alternating journal entries of Sophie and her cousin Cody.

City of Ember series, Jeanne DuPrau.

There is no natural light in the city of Ember. Glowing flood lamps generate the only light in the city for 12 hours a day. Outside the dim *shadows* of the city lies the Unknown Region, which no one dares to explore. Despite the darkness, life in Ember has been tolerable--until the lamps begin to flicker and food supplies dwindle. While others dismiss the inevitable, Twelve-year-olds

Dean Harrow and Linda Maleet worry about the future of their city. When they find a map to the City of light, their harrowing adventure begins. This is the first book in a series of four by Jeanne DuPrau.

Journal of Scott Penlelton Collins, Walter Dean Myers

“Scott, like so many of the other soldiers waiting in England, is eager to be off. Though he does not have the details he knows that any time now he and his unit are going to get on a boat which will carry them across the English Channel to begin the invasion of Europe - to begin the fight to take back the countries Germany took over. Like so many young men going to war Scott has very little sense of what he is going to be doing in France but he doesn't care. All he wants is to be relieved of the boring waiting game they are all playing.

At last, on the night of June 5th, 1944 Scott is on a boat feeling both seasick and nervous. When his boat finally approaches the beach in Normandy, France, he soon sees that the task ahead of him is a horrific one. How is he going to get to the beach head without being killed as so many others have been?” *Through the Looking Glass Children's Book Review* If you are interested in World War II, try *True Stories of D-Day, Under the Blood Red Sun, and The Story of the U.S.S. Arizona.*

Chasing Lincoln's Killer, James Swanson

This account of Lincoln's assassination and the 12-day search for his killer reads like an historical thriller. Every bit of dialogue is said to come from original sources as the author reveal the clumsy assassination plot and the division of the country after the Civil War. We viewed this trailer in library too.

When You Reach Me, Rebecca Staed

Sal and Miranda are no longer friends, and Miranda is left confused and sad. Things get worse when she starts receiving mysterious notes that predict the future. Miranda is read *A Wrinkle in Time* and wonders about one's ability to travel in time. You'll love this interesting touching mystery set in New York City in 1979.

Hanna's Suitcase, Karen Levine

This is the fascinating story of a teacher/museum director in Japan who sets out with her class to find the story behind a child's suitcase recovered from Auschwitz, a Nazi concentration camp. Ms. Ishioka and her class learn that the suitcase belonged to little Hanna who once lived in a resort town in Czechoslovakia with her loving family and dog Sylva. The story of Hanna's life is terribly sad, but what the students learn from her life is inspiring and uplifting. Hanna's story needs to be read and remembered, and it all starts with her small, brown suitcase. This book makes an excellent companion to Number the *Star*, which the sixth grade reads during the school year. If you are interested in more books about the Holocaust try *Stones in the Water, The Diary of Ann Frank, The Boy Who Dared*

Sports Fiction: If you're interested in reading about sports here are some of the best:

Travel Team, Heat, Miracle on 29th Street, The Big Field, Summer Ball, and *Wild Pitch* all by Mike Lupica

Last Shot: a Final Four Mystery, Vanishing Act, Cover Up: the Mystery at the Super Bowl, by John Feinstein

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