

LAWRENCE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Summer Reading 2018 Incoming 4th Grade Students

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Students are encouraged to read several books during the summer months. It is important to provide maintenance of reading skills learned during the school year.

Your local library, as well as the Merrimack Valley Consortium, offers many fine books that are appropriate for students entering fourth grade.

The following is a suggested reading list for fourth grade:

Books about 4th Grade

4B Goes Wild by Jamie Gilson
Amber Brown Goes Fourth, and Amber Brown Wants Extra Credit by Paula Danziger
Awfully Short for the Fourth Grade by Elvira Woodruff
The Cybil War by Betsy Byars
Fourth Grade Celebrity by Patricia Reilly Giff
Fourth Grade Rats by Jerry Spinelli
The Fourth Grade Wizards by Barthe deClements
Ghosts in the Fourth Grade by Constance Hiser James
Herbie Jones Moves On by Suzy Kline
Jack Adrift: Fourth Grade Without a Clue by Jack Gantos
Jake Drake, Class Clown by Andrew Clements
Keep Ms. Sugarman in the Fourth Grade by Elizabeth Levy
Ramona's World by Beverly Cleary

Newbery Award Winners

The Hundred Penny Box by Sharon Bell Mathis
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Souder by William H. Armstrong Souder
The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane by Russell Freedman

Classics

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh
Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford
James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder
The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary

Your child is required to do the “book-in-a-bag project” on his or her favorite book. Instructions for this project are attached. Please bring this project in on the first day of school.

Enjoy your summer and Happy Reading,
Grade 4 Teachers

Suggested Authors

Avi
Beverly Cleary
Andrew Clements
Sharon Creech
Roald Dahl
Steven Kellogg
Dick King-Smith
Patricia Polacco
William Steig
Jon Scieszka
Chris Van Allsburg
E.B. White

LAWRENCE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Book in a Bag Reading Project

Materials: 1 large brown paper bag
Craft items for decorating, such as: yarn, felt, construction paper.
Pens, crayons, markers, glue, etc.

Project Directions: Please be careful to follow the directions below when completing this project. Remember to think about and thoroughly plan all ideas before completing the final project. The end result should be neat, informative, and attractive.

- 1) Front of Bag
 - a. Label the front of the bag with the title of the book and the name of the author. This information should be big enough to be seen from a distance.
 - b. Draw an “original scene” from the story. This may be three-dimensional if you choose. You may draw directly on the bag, or you may glue other paper onto the bag.
 - c. Write a descriptive summary of the book which includes the characters, setting, and plot of the story. This should be at least two paragraphs in length, and should be typed or written on lined paper, then glued to the bag. (Spelling, punctuation, grammar, and neatness all count.)
- 2) Right Side Panel of Bag
 - a. Give your book a rating of one, two, three, or four stars—four stars being the highest rating. (Try to be creative when making your stars: aluminum foil, felt, paint, etc.)
 - b. Briefly explain your rating in a complete sentence format—no more than one page typed or handwritten.
- 3) Left Side Panel of Bag
 - a. List each “important” character and a brief description of one. This section should be written in complete sentence format. Include information such as: nicknames, age, physical description, occupation, and role in the story.
- 4) Back of Bag
 - a. Choose an event from the story to illustrate, and include a well-written explanation of this choice.
- 5) Inside the Bag
 - a. Fill the bottom half of the bag with shredded paper or crushed newspaper.
 - b. Place five to seven items in the bag that are symbolic of some aspect of the story. These may be pre-existing items or you may make them yourself. Be prepared to explain the importance of each item and how it relates to the book you have read. You will be asked to present this in class.

****Please remember to work on this project a little at a time. Perhaps it would be a good idea to accomplish one step of this project at a time.

****You will be graded on your knowledge of the book, writing, creativity, and overall presentation. This project will count as the first 3 Reading grades for the first term!!