

LAWRENCE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Summer Reading 2019 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

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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!!