

Mary Immaculate School

2023 Summer Reading

Reading and being read to for a significant amount of time each day is extremely important for developing readers. Please provide ample opportunities for your children to engage with quality texts throughout the summer and beyond. Screen time should not exceed time spent listening to and/or reading books.

The lists below are not meant to be exhaustive lists of possibilities for good reads for young people this summer. Please visit your local library to find additional titles and authors for summer reading adventures. Please be discerning and selective.

Several of the books recommended below have been made into movies. Even if you intend to watch the movie, you are strongly encouraged to read the book first. If you have already seen the movie, please read the book to see what the movie may have missed, added, or revised. Comparing books to movies can be a good exercise; however, simply watching the movie should never take the place of reading the book.

PreK4, Kindergarten and First Grade

There are no specific recommendations or requirements for PreK4, Kindergarten or First Grade students. Parents are strongly encouraged to read with and to their children as well as provide appropriate level books for children to read each day.

Second Grade

There is no Required Reading for Second Grade.

Recommended Reading:

Stellaluna – Jannell Cannon

Swimmy – Leo Lionni

Many Moons – James Thurber

The Selfish Giant – Oscar Wilde

Rumpelstiltskin – Paul O. Zelinsky (retold by)

The Magic Treehouse (series) – Mary Pope Osborne

Amelia Bedelia (series) – Peggy Parish

The Boxcar Children (series) – Gertrude Chandler Warner

Henry and Mudge, Ramona, Ralph and the Motorcycle or any Beverly Cleary books

Third Grade

There is no Required Reading for Third Grade.

Recommended Reading:

The Reluctant Dragon – Kenneth Grahame

The Story of Ferdinand – Munro Leaf

Rikki-Tikki-Tavi – Rudyard Kipling

From the Great Illustrated Classics

Gulliver's Travels

Robin Hood

Wizard of Oz

The Secret Garden

Because of Winn-Dixie – Kate DiCamillo
Stone Fox – John Reynolds Gardiner
Shiloh – Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Fourth Grade

*Required Reading:

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH – Robert C. O'Brien

Recommended Reading:

The One and Only Ivan – Katherine Applegate
Wonder – R.J. Palacio
Ella Enchanted – Gail Carson Levine
Best of Iggy – Annie Barrows and Sam Ricks
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – Roald Dahl
Tale of Despereaux – Kate DiCamillo
A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'Engle

Fifth Grade

*Required Reading:

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler – E.L. Konigsburg

Recommended Reading:

A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'Engle
The Good Master – Kate Seredy
The Singing – Kate Seredy
Guns for General Washington – Seymour Reit
The Cricket in Times Square – George Selden
Thank you, Jackie Robinson – Barbara Cohen
The Little House on the Prairie – Laura Ingalls Wilder
The Magician's Nephew – C.S. Lewis

Sixth Grade

*Required Reading:

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane – Kate DiCamillo

Recommended Reading:

Anne of Green Gables – Lucy Maud Montgomery
The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien
The Swiss Family Robinson – Johann Davis Wyss
The Silver Chair – C.S. Lewis
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland – Lewis Carroll
Million Dollar Throw – Mike Lupica
The Phantom Tollbooth – Norton Juster

Seventh Grade

*Required Reading:

Bridge to Terabithia – Katherine Paterson

Recommended Reading:

The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkein
Old Yeller – Fred Gipson
The Giver – Lois Lowry
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas – John Boyne
Island of the Blue Dolphins – Scott O’Dell
Sunder – William H. Armstrong
Hatchet – Gary Paulsen
The Hiding Place – Corrie Ten Boom
Gifted Hands – Ben Carson
Do Hard Things – Alex and Brett Harris

Eighth Grade

*Required Reading:

Across Five Aprils – Irene Hunt

Recommended Reading:

Animal Farm – George Orwell
The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkein
Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank
A Man for All Seasons – Robert Bolt
The Hiding Place – Corrie Ten Boom
Hatchet – Gary Paulsen
The Pearl – John Steinbeck
A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court – Mark Twain
The Batboy – Mike Lupica
Gifted Hands – Ben Carson
Do Hard Things – Alex and Brett Harris

***Required Reading**—Students should be prepared to engage with these texts (reading, writing, discussing) in the classroom during the early weeks of school in August.