

St. Peter Claver Regional Catholic School

Rising 5th Grade

Summer Reading 2020

Summer Reading Assignment:

1. Read three books (***Esperanza Rising***), and two chosen selections from the list below)
2. Complete Graphic Organizers for each of the three books
3. Be prepared for a test on *Esperanza Rising*, and an in-class writing assignment on your two chosen books during the first week of school.

*You will be reading three books this summer, one required book, which is enclosed, and two books chosen from the selections listed below. You will also find graphic organizers included in this packet. The graphic organizers will help you order your thoughts and understanding of the book. The graphic organizers will also help you prepare for your **summer reading assessments** which will take place during the first full week of school. You will have a test covering your required reading, and in-class writing assignments, covering the two additional books chosen from the selections below.*

Required Selection: *Esperanza Rising* , by Pam Munoz Ryan

Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico. She'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home filled with servants, and Mama, Papa, and Abuelita to care for her. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard work, financial struggles brought on by the Great Depression, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When Mama gets sick and a strike for better working conditions threatens to uproot their new life, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances-because Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.

Please choose two other books from the selection below:

***Dear Mr. Henshaw*, by Beverly Cleary**

When fourth grader Leigh Botts asks Mr. Henshaw to write to him personally, he gets more than he bargained for. Mr. Henshaw's letters are full of questions, and Leigh is getting tired of answering them. As he continues his correspondence with his favorite author, he not only gets plenty of tips on writing, but he also finds a wise and thoughtful friend to whom he can tell his troubles.

***Shiloh*, by Phyllis Reynolds**

Eleven-year-old Marty Preston loves to spend time up in the hills behind his home near Friendly, West Virginia. What do you do when a dog you suspect is being mistreated runs away and comes to you? When it is someone else's dog? When the man who owns him has a gun? This is Marty's problem, and he finds it is one he has to face alone. When his solution gets too big for him to handle, Marty puts his courage on the line and discovers that it is not always easy to separate right from wrong. Sometimes however you'll do almost anything to save a dog you love.

***Bud Not Buddy*, by Christopher Paul Curtis**

Bud is a young boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression. On a mission to find his father, the only clue his mother left him was several flyers about a band in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He gets a ride to Grand Rapids, and finds Herman E. Calloway, the man that he believes is his father but does not get the reception he imagines. *Bud, Not Buddy* is full of laugh out loud humor and wonderful characters taking readers on a heartwarming and unforgettable journey.

***Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*, by Robert C. O'Brien**

Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse with four small children, must move her family to their summer quarters immediately or face almost certain death. But her youngest son, Timothy, lies ill with pneumonia and must not be moved. Fortunately, she encounters the rats of NIMH, an extraordinary breed of highly intelligent creatures, who come up with a brilliant solution to her dilemma.

***The Mysterious Benedict Society*, by Trenton Lee Stewart**

“Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities?” The ad attracts dozens for mind-bending tests even you the reader may try. Only two boys and two girls succeed for a secret mission which takes them undercover and underground into hidden tunnels. At *The Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened*, the only rule is – there are no rules.

***The Story of Doctor Doolittle*, by Hugh Lofting**

John Doolittle is a kind-hearted country physician who keeps goldfish in his pond, rabbits in the pantry, white mice in a piano, and a hedgehog in the cellar. He also has an unusual gift: he can talk to animals — a talent that comes in handy, since he prefers treating animals, rather than humans, as his patients.

One day, a mysterious call summons him to Africa, where a serious epidemic has spread among the monkey population. Of course, the good doctor sets out immediately with some of his best friends — Jip, the dog, and Polynesia, the parrot, among others. An entertaining classic that has charmed readers of all ages for generations

***Fantasy League*, by Mike Lupica**

12-year-old Charlie is a fantasy football guru. He may be just a bench warmer for his school's football team, but when it comes to knowing and loving the game, he's first-string. He even becomes a celebrity when his podcast gets noticed by a sports radio host, who plays Charlie's fantasy picks for all of Los Angeles to hear. Soon Charlie befriends the elderly owner of the L.A. Bulldogs — a fictional NFL team — and convinces him to take a chance on an aging quarterback. After that, watch out... it's press conferences and national fame for Charlie who becomes a media curiosity and source of conflict for the Bulldogs general manager, whose job Charlie seems to have taken. It's all a bit much for a kid just trying to stay on top of his grades and maintain his friendship with his verbal sparring partner, Anna.

***The Incredible Journey*, by Sheila Burnford**

Instinct told them that the way home lay to the west. And so the doughty young Labrador retriever, the roguish bull terrier and the indomitable Siamese set out through the Canadian wilderness. Separately, they would soon have died. But, together, the three house pets face starvation, exposure, and wild forest animals to make their way home to the family they love. *The Incredible Journey* is one of the great stories of all time.

***The Borrowers*, by Mary Norton**

The Clock family: Homily, Pod, and their fourteen-year-old daughter, Arrietty,—are tiny people who live underneath the kitchen floor of an old English country manor. All their minuscule home furnishings, from postage stamp paintings to champagne cork chairs, are “borrowed” from the “human beans” who tromp around loudly above them. All is well until Pod is spotted upstairs by a human boy! Can the Clocks stay nested safely in their beloved hidden home, or will they be forced to flee?

***A Week in the Woods*, by Andrew Clements**

The fifth grade’s annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark’s survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.

***My Side of the Mountain*, by Jean Craighead George**

A boy runs away from home and spends a year living in a tree in the Catskill Mountains with a young peregrine falcon, depending on his knowledge of the natural world and on nature itself to survive.

***The Chronicles of Narnia*, by C.S. Lewis (or choose any one of the following)**

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Narnia is a land frozen in eternal winter, always winter, but never Christmas, a country waiting to be set free. Four siblings step through a wardrobe door and into the magical land of Narnia, a land enslaved by the power of the White Witch. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change . . . and a great sacrifice. Follow Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy as they explore a world filled with magic, dwarves, spirits and talking animals!

Prince Caspian

Back in Narnia, where animals talk, where trees walk, where a battle is about to begin, the Pevensie children find themselves helping a prince denied his rightful throne. An army is gathered in a desperate attempt to rid his land of a false king. But in the end, it is a battle of honor between two men alone that will decide the fate of an entire world.

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

On board a ship sailing in search of the end of the world, King Caspian meets two of his old friends in a most unexpected way. Back in Narnia, where a dragon awakens, where stars walk the earth, and where anything can happen, the Pevensie children are back on a voyage that will take them beyond all known lands. As they sail farther and farther from charted waters, they discover that their quest is more than they imagined and that the world's end is only the beginning.

The Horse and his Boy

It's the Golden Age of Narnian history. The four kings and queens of Narnia are in the midst of their reign. Travel back to Narnia where horses talk, where treachery is brewing, and where destiny awaits. On a desperate journey, two runaways meet and join forces. Though they are only looking to escape their harsh and narrow lives, they soon find themselves at the center of a terrible battle. It is a battle that will decide their fate and the fate of Narnia itself.

The Silver Chair

It's a dark time in Narnia where giants wreak havoc, where evil weaves a spell, and where enchantment rules. Through dangers untold and caverns deep and dark, a noble band of friends is sent to rescue a prince held captive. But their mission to Underland brings them face-to-face with an evil more beautiful and more deadly than they ever expected.

The Last Battle

Narnia, where lies breed fear, where loyalty is tested, where all hope seems lost. During the last days of Narnia, the land faces its fiercest challenge—not an invader from without but an enemy from within. Lies and treachery have taken root, and only the king and a small band of loyal followers can prevent the destruction of all they hold dear in this, the magnificent ending to The Chronicles of Narnia.