

June 3, 2010

Dear Families,

As summer draws near, we are already preparing for the opening of school in August. While the summer is a time for relaxation and intellectual renewal for our students it should also be a time of preparation for the academic year ahead.

We are requiring all students entering fourth through eighth grade to take part in our summer reading program. Your child will be required to read both novels on their grade level list. In addition to reading the novels, your child will also be required to answer a series of thought-provoking questions while reading each novel. The questions focus on the setting, characters, plot, and sequencing. **Your child will be held accountable for the material; the questions and an in-class project will be included in their first quarter grade for reading.**

Your child's participation in our reading program will help prepare them for a new and challenging year ahead. With your cooperation and encouragement, we believe that these reading assignments will help our students grow intellectually as they enjoy the many benefits of summer vacation. Once again, this is not an optional activity but a required assignment.

It is not necessary to purchase these books; feel free to check them out at your local library. **Please pay close attention to the ISBN numbers on the list.** There are several editions of each book, therefore please be certain that you have the correct edition. Different editions provide different reading levels and content and the editions chosen will be the appropriate ones for your child's reading and grade level.

If you have any questions about the assignments, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the administration. This material will also be available on the school's website in mid June under "Student Life".

Sincerely,
ICS Faculty and Administration

I have read and understood the expectations of the summer reading program.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date

Please return to school by Monday, June 7th.

Required Summer Reading List 2010
Immaculate Conception School

Incoming Fourth Grade:

- Because of Winn Dixie, By: Kate DiCamillo
ISBN: 0763644323, Publisher: Candlewick

- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh, By: Robert C. O'Brien
ISBN: 9780689710681, Publisher: Simon and Schuster

Incoming Fifth Grade:

- Toliver's Secret, By: Richard Cuffari
ISBN: 0679848045, Publisher: Random House

- Hoot, By: Carl Hiaasen
ISBN: 9780440419396, Publisher: Random House

Incoming Sixth Grade:

- Favorite Greek Myths, By: Mary Pope Osborne
ISBN: 0590413392, Publisher: Scholastic Press

- Summer of the Monkeys, By: Wilson Rawls
ISBN: 9780440415800, Publisher: Random House

Incoming Seventh Grade:

- The Prince and the Pauper, By: Mark Twain
ISBN: 0451521935, Publisher: Signet

- The Red Pony, By: John Steinbeck
ISBN: 0140177361, Publisher: Penguin Group

Incoming Eighth Grade:

- The Jungle, By: Upton Sinclair
ISBN: 0140390316, Publisher: Penguin Group

- Why We Can't Wait, By: Martin Luther King, Jr.
ISBN: 0451527534, Publisher: Signet Classics

Complete the questions **as you read**. Feel free to attach additional pages if necessary.

∞ **Setting: (2 points per question)**

1. What place(s) are a part of this book?

2. What are the characteristics of these places? Describe with vivid detail.

3. What other details, like language (dialect), dress or customs help shape the setting of the story?

_____/6 points

∞ **Characters: (2 points per question)**

1. Sometimes you can learn a great deal about the character or characters, by the way he/she deals with a crisis, a problem, an obstacle, or a handicap. Describe how the person/people or character/characters in your book deal with these conflicts.

2. What sort of relationship do the people or characters in the story have with one another?

Open Ended Response

3. If you were the person in the book or the main character...

4. A quote that I liked...

_____/8 points

∞ **Plot: (2 points per question)**

1. Most stories have a problem and a solution as a part of the plot. Describe the problem in your novel.

2. What are the events (rising action) in the story that lead up to the climax (the turning point)?

3. What is the climax of the story?

_____/6 points

∞ **Story Map (4 points)**

Draw a story map that illustrates the beginning, middle, and end of the book.

_____/4 points