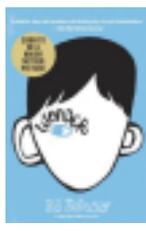


Blessed Sacrament School 5th Grade Summer Reading

Dear Students,

This summer every fifth grade student is required to read three wonderful novels. They are:

	<i>Wonder</i> by R. J. Palacio
	<i>Bridge to Terabithia</i> by Katherine Paterson
	<i>Rules</i> by Cynthia Lord

I have chosen these three award winning books for several reasons: interesting characters, exciting plots, and talented authors. It is mandatory to read all three books because the material from these novels will be used for many language arts lessons throughout the year. I will use the plots, characters, and vocabulary to create writing, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary activities.

Please keep notes on the books. Focus on main characters and major events. If you purchase the books, a great way to take notes is writing right in the margins of the pages or using sticky notes. Also, if you own the books, bring them with you on the first day of school. Be prepared for a test on the major characters and events. (I'll allow you to use your notes because I realize if you finish reading a book in June, it's hard to remember some details in September!)

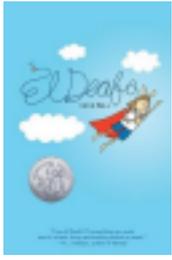
I hope you enjoy each of these novels as much as I do. Have a wonderful fun filled summer, and get ready for several fun creative projects awaiting you in September. If you are looking for additional summer reading, check on Mrs. Ferguson's suggestions below. I look forward to working with you!

Enjoy,

Miss Jacksina

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	<p>11 Birthdays (and others in the Willow Falls series by Mass) Genre: fantasy</p> <p>After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo have a falling out on their tenth birthday and haven't spoken to each other for the last year. As they prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately, peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.</p>
	<p>Because of Mr. Terupt (Buyea) Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt.</p>
	<p>Bigger than a Breadbox (Snyder) Genre: fantasy</p> <p>Devastated when her parents separate, twelve-year-old Rebecca must move with her mother from Baltimore to Gran's house in Atlanta, where Rebecca discovers an old breadbox with the power to grant any wish--so long as the wished-for thing fits in the breadbox.</p>
	<p>Capture the Flag (and sequels by Messner) Genre: action/adventure</p> <p>When the original Star Spangled Banner is stolen, seventh-graders Anne, Jose, and Henry pursue suspects on airport carts and through baggage handling tunnels while stranded at a Washington, D.C., airport during a snowstorm.</p>
	<p>A Crooked Kind of Perfect (Urban) Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, instead, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life.</p>



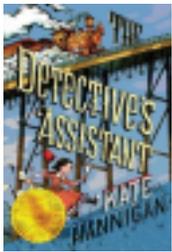
El Deafo (Bell)

Genre: graphic novel

This Newbery Honor book is the author's true story of suffering hearing loss at age four and of her experiences navigating elementary school with her Phonic Ear hearing aids. Funny, sweet, and relatable to all kids.

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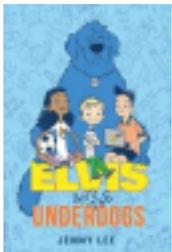
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The Detective's Assistant (Hannigan)

Genre: mystery, historical fiction

In 1859, eleven-year-old Nell goes to live with her aunt, Kate Warne, the first female detective for Pinkerton's National Detective Agency. Nell helps her aunt solve cases, including a mystery surrounding Abraham Lincoln, and the mystery of what happened to Nell's own father.



Elvis and the Underdogs

Genre: animal fiction/fantasy

All his life Benji, now ten, has been sickly and he has long been targeted by the school bully, but after a seizure Benji gets a therapy dog that is not only big enough to protect him, it can also talk.



Inkheart (Funke)

Genre: fantasy

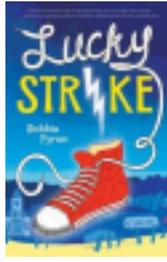
Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel "Inkheart" years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.



Knucklehead (Scieszka)

Genre: tall tale, autobiography

Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.

	<p>Lucky Strike (Pyron) Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>Nathaniel Harlow lives with his grandfather in a trailer park in Franklin County, Florida, and he has always been unlucky. But when he is struck by lightning on his eleventh birthday and survives, it seems like his luck starts to change.</p>
	<p>Magyk (Sage) Genre: fantasy</p> <p>Septimus Heap, the seventh son of the seventh son, disappears the night he is born and is pronounced dead by the midwife. That same night, the baby's father, Silas Heap, comes across an abandoned child in the snow—a newborn girl with violet eyes. Who is this mysterious baby girl, and what really happened to the Heaps' beloved son?</p>

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	<p>Mo'ne Davis: Remember My Name Genre: autobiography, sports</p> <p>Life story of Mo'ne Davis, who in 2014 became the first female pitcher to win a game in the Little League World Series and the first Little Leaguer to be featured on the cover of <i>Sports Illustrated</i>.</p>
	<p>Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics (Grabenstein) Genre: mystery, humor</p> <p>Mr. Lemoncello has invited teams from all across America to compete in the first ever LIBRARY OLYMPICS...but someone is trying to censor what the kids are reading. Sequel to: <i>Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library</i>.</p>
	<p>Mr. Tucket (Paulsen) Genre: historical fiction</p> <p>In 1848, while on a wagon train headed for Oregon, fourteen-year-old Francis Tucket is kidnapped by Pawnee Indians and then falls in with a one-armed trapper who teaches him how to live in the wild.</p>

	<p><i>The Name of this Book is Secret</i> (and others in series by Bosch) Genre: mystery, adventure</p> <p>Cassandra and Max find a missing magician's notebook and start to investigate the fire, which burnt down his house and his mysterious "symphony of smells."</p>
	<p><i>Nest</i> (Ehrlich) Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>On Cape Cod in 1972, eleven-year-old Naomi, known as Chirp for her love of birds, gets help from neighbor Joey as she struggles to cope with her mother's multiple sclerosis and its effect on her father and sister.</p>
	<p><i>Notes from a Liar and Her Dog</i> (Choldenko) Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>Eleven-year-old Ant, stuck in a family that she does not like, copes by pretending that her "real" parents are coming to rescue her, by loving her dog Pistachio, by volunteering at the zoo, and by bending the truth and telling lies.</p>

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	<p><i>Pie</i> (Weeks) Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>Alice's Aunt Polly passes away and entrusts the recipe for her world-famous pie crust to her cat, which she leaves in Alice's care, and as everyone, including Alice, tries to discover the secret ingredients, Alice learns some important lessons about faith, love, and family.</p>
	<p><i>The Postcard</i> (Abbott) Genre: mystery</p> <p>Thirteen-year-old Jason finds an old postcard at his recently-deceased grandmother's house that leads him on an adventure blending figures from an old, unfinished detective story with his family's past.</p>

	<p><i>Raymie Nightingale (DiCamillo)</i> Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>Raymie hopes that if she wins a local beauty pageant, her father will come home to the family he left. So she starts performing good deeds and signs up for baton twirling lessons, where she meets a drama queen named Louisiana and a fiery girl named Beverly who is trying to sabotage the contest.</p>
	<p><i>Redwall (and others in series by Jacques)</i> Genre: fantasy</p> <p>When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.</p>
	<p><i>Sammy Keyes and the Wild Things (or others in series by Van Draanen)</i> Genre: mystery</p> <p>While on her first hiking and camping trip, thirteen-year-old Sammy tries to solve a mystery involving endangered condors while avoiding scorpions, ticks, and embarrassment.</p>
	<p><i>Spindlers (Oliver)</i> Genre: fantasy</p> <p>Accompanied by an eccentric, human-sized rat, Liza embarks on a perilous quest through an underground realm to save her brother Patrick, whose soul has been stolen by the vilest of creatures--the spider-like spindlers.</p>

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	<p><i>Stubby the War Dog (Bausum)</i> Genre: nonfiction</p> <p>Relates the true story of Sergeant Stubby, a Boston bull terrier who served in World War I. Private Robert Conroy adopted the orphan pup while attending basic training in 1917, but he never imagined that his stray dog would become a war hero. A great story for dog lovers and for history buffs.</p>
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	<p><i>Switch (and others in the series by Law)</i> Genre: fantasy</p> <p>Gypsy Beaumont's magical savvy switches to its opposite when she learns that her mean and decidedly non-magical grandma has Alzheimer's and is going to move in with her family. Sequel to <i>Savvy</i>.</p>
	<p><i>Tesla's Attic (Shusterman)</i> Genre: science fiction</p> <p>After his mother dies, fourteen-year-old Nick, his younger brother, and their father move into Great-aunt Greta's old house. The junk-filled attic includes items that were made by Nicola Tesla himself--and that have mysterious powers. A baseball glove with its own magnetic pull attracts the attention of shady scientists called the Accelerati. First book in the Accelerati trilogy.</p>
	<p><i>A Time for Andrew: a ghost story (Hahn)</i> Genre: fantasy/time travel</p> <p>When he goes to spend the summer with his great-aunt in the family's old house, eleven-year-old Drew is drawn eighty years into the past to trade places with his great great-uncle who is dying of diphtheria.</p>
	<p><i>Touch Blue (Lord)</i> Genre: realistic fiction</p> <p>When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child, to increase the school's population.</p>
	<p><i>Treasure Island (Stevenson)</i> Genre: classic, adventure</p> <p>While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune and great danger. This unabridged version is superbly illustrated with woodcuts by John Lawrence, or try other editions without illustrations.</p>

	<p><i>The True Blue Scouts of Sugar Man Swamp (Appelt)</i> Genre: animal story, fantasy</p> <p>Twelve-year-old Chap Brayburn, ancient Sugar Man, and his raccoon-brother Swamp Scouts Bingo and J'miah try to save Bayou Tourterelle from feral pigs Clydine and Buzzie, greedy Sunny Boy Beaucoup, and world-class alligator wrestler and would-be land developer Jaeger Stitch.</p>
	<p><i>Ungifted (Korman)</i> Genre: realistic fiction, humorous</p> <p>Due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students, after pulling a major prank at middle school.</p>
	<p><i>A Week in the Woods (Clements)</i> Genre: survival</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon (Lin)</i> Genre: fairy tale, adventure</p> <p>Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River.</p>
	<p><i>The Willoughbys (Lowry)</i> Genre: humorous</p> <p>A tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, in which the four Willoughby children set out to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.</p>
	<p><i>Zoobreak (Korman)</i> Genre: adventure</p> <p>After a class trip to a floating zoo where animals are mistreated and Savannah's missing pet monkey is found in a cage, Long Island sixth-grader Griffin Bing and his band of misfits plan a rescue.</p>

