

Our Philosophy

Holy Trinity considers reading one of the most important skills in fully preparing our students to be lifelong learners. We emphasize reading for a variety of reasons: (1) for enjoyment, (2) to gain information, (3) to be inspired, (4) to make connections to our lives and the world, (5) for insights on differing perspectives, and (6) to develop critical thinking skills. To that end, we are asking our students to read three books over the summer break. Two of those books will be chosen by the teacher, and one book will be a student choice selection.

Students will be engaged in a variety of activities with their summer reading when they return. Activities are designed to help students gain a better understanding of theme, characterization, plot and other literary elements, and will be part of the students' first quarter Language Arts grades.

Guidelines:

All returning students and those enrolled before or on July 1st must complete the full summer reading list. New students enrolled after July 1st must complete the book designated with an asterisk by August 13th. The other required book for 4th through 8th grade must be completed by September 1st. Each book will be an area of focus in the reading curriculum during the first quarter. Please bring these books starting on the first day of school.

A Note about E-readers

Nooks and Kindles are permitted at school in grades 4 - 8 per the guidelines established in our Holy Trinity Catholic School handbook. You may purchase the downloadable version of the books on our summer reading list, but paper books for these selections are highly encouraged for ease of teacher's reference.

A Word about Book Choices for the Intermediate and Middle School Level:

Intermediate and Middle School level novels can sometimes deal with mature or above grade-level themes. Please review your child's summer book choice to be aware of what he or she is reading and send only age-appropriate books to school with your child.

Grade Student is Entering:	Books:
First	(1) * <i>If You Take a Mouse to School</i> by Laura Numeroff ➤ This book can be read by a parent or independently. (2) <i>Footprints in the Snow</i> by Cynthia Benjamin (3) Book Choice
Second	(1) * <i>Nate the Great and the Sticky Case</i> by Marjorie Sharmat (2) <i>Young Cam Jensen and the Spotted Cat</i> by David Adler (3) <i>Maya was Grumpy</i> by Courtney Pippin-Mathur
Third	(1) * <i>Freckle Juice</i> Judy Blume (2) <i>Summer Reading is Killing Me</i> by Jon Scieszka (3) Choice - Student may pick a Caldecott book (You may use this website to see a list of books) http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal
Fourth	(1) * <i>If Your Name Was Changed at Ellis Island</i> by Ellen Levine (2) <i>Because of Winn Dixie</i> by Kate Di Camillo (3) Book Choice Please take simple, brief notes on each chapter (1 to 2 sentences).
Fifth	(1) * <i>Sign of the Beaver</i> by Elizabeth George Speare (2) <i>Ben and Me</i> by Robert Lawson (3) Book Choice Please take simple, brief notes on each chapter (1 to 2 sentences).
Sixth	(1) * <i>Wonder</i> by R.J. Palacio (2) <i>Crispin The Cross of Lead</i> by Avi (3) Book Choice After finishing, please write one page reflecting on the book. State the title and author of the book, its genre, and begin your writing with one of these three phrases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After reading this book, I am different because... • I learned from this book ... • Now that I've read this book, I feel...
Seventh	(1) * <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> by Wilson Rawls (2) <i>Where the Broken Heart Still Beats</i> by Carolyn Meyer (3) Choice of any book by Margaret Peterson Haddix or Caroline B. Cooney After finishing, please write one page reflecting on the book. State the title and author of the book, its genre, and begin your writing with one of these three phrases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After reading this book, I am different because... • I learned from this book ... • Now that I've read this book, I feel...
Eighth	(1) * <i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton (2) <i>Across Five Aprils</i> by Irene Hunt (3) Book Choice Please take Cornell-style or another type of notes on your reading.