



INCOMING PRE-PRIMARY SCHOLARS

The following is a list of suggested books to read with your scholars before they begin their first day of school at St. James!

Preschool Day Hooray! Written by Linda Leopold Strauss and Illustrated by Hiroe Nakata

My First Day at Nursery School Written by Becky Edwards and Illustrated by Anthony Flintoft

Maisy Goes to Preschool: A Maisy First Experiences Book

[Anno's Counting Book](#) by Mitsumasa Anno

[The Kissing Hand](#) by Audrey Penn

[Chicka Chicka Boom Boom](#) by Bill Martin Jr.

[Freight Train](#) by Donald Crews

[Triangles](#) Written by Mac Barnett and Illustrated by Jon Klassen

Calm Down Time by Elizabeth Verdick

The Way I Feel by Janan Cain

Any Eric Carle book

Any "Pete the Cat" books



RISING PRIMARY SCHOLARS

Our curriculum includes many themes such as all about me, families, transportation, shapes, colors, animals, and insects (just to name a few!). Reading with your child helps increase their vocabulary, attention span and communication skills, strengthens their social and emotional development and creates a love for reading. Our recommended reading list includes a few of our classroom favorites from last year.

Tomie dePaola's Mother Goose

The Grouchy Ladybug Eric Carle

The Very Hungry Caterpillar Eric Carle

How Do Dinosaurs Go to School? Jane Yolen

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie Laura Numeroff

The Pout Pout Fish Deborah Diesen

The Napping House Audrey Wood

Glad Monster, Sad Monster Ed Emberley and Anne Miranda

Favorite Authors

Eric Carle

Bill Martin, Jr.

Anna Dewdney

Lois Ehlert

Todd Parr



RISING PRE-KINDERGARTEN SCHOLARS

Our curriculum includes nursery rhymes, fairy tales, and Bible stories. The first three books will help prepare your scholars for instruction, and the fourth will help them learn appropriate times to talk and listen.

Required Summer Reading for Rising Pre-K Scholars

Tomie dePaola's Mother Goose

The Random House Book of Fairy Tales

The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones

My Mouth is a Volcano by Julia Cook

How Full is Your Bucket? for Kids by Tom Rath

More important than WHAT you read is THE TIME you read. Research consistently proves that reading 20 minutes a day increases your child's vocabulary, attention span, love of reading, and school success. Besides, it is just a sweet time for both the child and the adult! Here are some suggestions but let your son or daughter's interests and enjoyment be your guide. Please include nursery rhymes, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction genres in your library.

Favorite Authors

Eric Carle

Bill Martin, Jr.

Eileen Christelow

Tomie dePaola

Doreen Cronin

Jan Brett

Jane Yolen

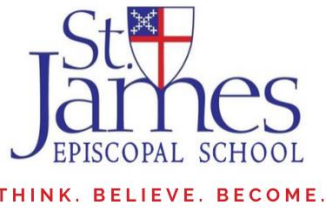
Paulette Bourgeois (Franklin the turtle)

Kevin Henkes

Dr. Seuss

Leo Lioni

Gail Gibbons



RISING JR. KINDER SCHOLARS

Grumpy Monkey by Suzanne Lang

Me First by Helen Lester

Alpha Opps! The Day Z Went First by Aletha Kontis

Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews

Giraffe's Can't Dance by Giles Andreae

We Are Growing! by Mo Willems

Ice Cream Summer by Peter Sis

What Do You Do With a Problem? by Kobi Yamada

They All Saw a Cat by Brenden Wenzel

God Gave Us You by Lisa Tawn Bergren

Additional Books

Nursery Rhymes

Traditional Tales

Non-fiction

Dr. Seuss

Elephant & Piggie Series by Mo Willems

Little Critter Series by Mercer Mayer

Clifford Series by Norman Bridwell



RISING KINDERGARTEN SCHOLARS

Congratulations and Welcome to Kindergarten at St. James! Your Scholar is about to embark on an exciting year! Kindergarten is a year of fun and challenge. To help you get ready, we are giving you some recommended reading and activities for the summer. Books should be read for both enjoyment and practice without frustration. If your scholar is already a beginning reader, you may select books on their level. While it is important for your scholar to practice reading, it is just as important for them to hear you read.

Required Books:

There Are Bugs Everywhere by Britta Teckentrup

Flashlight Night by Matt Forrest Esenwine

Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey

If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson

The Oak Inside the Acorn by Max Lucado

Encouraged Podcasts:

Wow in the World

The Bible for Kids Podcast

Summer Bridge Workbook:

Summer Bridge Activities K-1 by Carson Dellosa

Kumon Summer Review and Prep K-1 by Kumon

Activities that engage your child in math and critical thinking skills are fun, too! Try some of these, especially as August arrives:

1. Collect, sort, and count items. Buttons, bread ties, rocks, shells, stamps-anything! Count by ones, fives, and tens. Sort by color, shape, and size.
2. Take walks and find opportunities to observe things like shadows, bugs, flowers, puddles. Ask questions like “what makes a shadow?” or “why are there cracks in the sidewalk?” Skip, hop and take giant steps, then talk about the difference.
3. Label things around the house with sticky notes.
4. Let them help you measure when you cook.
5. Play board games and work puzzles.
6. Let them pay with cash at the store and count the change together.
7. Draw, cut and glue.
8. Practice zipping, snapping, and packing anything, this is especially important to help create independence for lunch next year.
9. MOST IMPORTANT: eat lots of ice cream, swim, and play!

Have a Wonderful Summer!!!



RISING FIRST GRADE SCHOLARS

Welcome to First Grade! The coming year will be full of exciting challenges and happy successes! **The following is a list of required and suggested summer reading titles; however, more important than WHAT you read is THE TIME you read together!** Research consistently proves that reading 20 minutes a day increases your child’s vocabulary, attention span, love of reading, and future school success! To help your Kinder scholar practice reading skills over the summer and feel “First Grade” ready, plan a regular reading time together.

Required Books

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
Henry Hodges Needs a Friend by Andy Andrews
Only God Can Make a Kitten by Rhonda Greene
Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss
Any one (scholar’s choice) of Gail Gibbons’ nonfiction selections

Then choose at least 5 of the following books to read:

Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
My Lucky Day by Keiko Kasza
My Best Friend by Pat Hutchins
You Read to Me, I’ll Read to You by Mary Ann Hoberman
Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey
Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson
Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown
Olivia by Ian Falconer
Bedtime for Frances by Russell Hoban
Swimmy by Leo Lionni
Time for Bed by Mem Fox
Little Bear by Else Holmelund
Anansi and the Magic Stick by Eric A. Kimmel

Or any title from the following series of books:

Frog and Toad Series by Arnold Lobel
Arthur Series by Marc Brown
Henry and Mudge Series by Cynthia Rylant
Elephant & Piggie Series by Mo Willems



RISING SECOND GRADE SCHOLARS

Scholars will complete an assigned project over ONE of these books, of their choice, at the beginning of school. They will need access to a copy of their book choice for at least the first two weeks of school.

- *Monarch Butterfly* by Gail Gibbons (A.R. level 3.4)
- *Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express* by Eleanor Coerr (A.R. level 2.7)
- *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman (A.R. level 3.5)
- *The Chalk Box Kid* by Clyde Robert Bulla (A.R. level 2.7)

Scholars must also choose and read at least 5 (five) of the following selections by the end of summer:

The Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Pena (AR level 3.3)

Angel Child, Dragon Child by Michelle Maria Surat (AR level 2.8)

The Hula Hoopin' Queen by Thelma Lynne Godin (AR level 3.4)

Mr. George Baker by Amy Hest (AR level 2.5)

Dandelions by Eve Bunting (AR level 3.5)

From Seed to Plant by Gail Gibbons (AR level 3.4)

Give Bees a Chance by Bethany Barton (AR level 3.6)

I'm Trying to Love Spiders by Bethan Barton (AR level 2.5)

The Very Quiet Cricket by Eric Carle (AR level 3.0)

The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry (AR level 3.8)

A Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln by David A. Adler (AR level 3.8)

Clara Barton by Wil Mara (AR level 2.6)

The Three Pigs by David Weisner (AR Level 2.3)

The Lion and The Mouse by Gare Thompson (AR level 2.4)



RISING THIRD GRADE SCHOLARS

Required Book (Scholars will be expected to complete a project on this novel at the beginning of the school year)

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White (AR 4.4)

Choose at least one from this list:

Magic Tree House - Fact Tracker - Rainforest (AR 4.8)

Magic Tree House - Afternoon on the Amazon (AR 2.6)

Who was Ferdinand Magellan? (AR 4.6)

What Was Ellis Island? (AR 5.6)

Where is the Parthenon? (AR 6.3)

Choose at least one from this list:

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate (AR 3.6)

Miss Daisy is Crazy by Dan Gutman (AR 4.3)

Runaway Ralph by Beverly Cleary (AR 5.3)

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo (AR 4.4)

Stuart Little by EB White (AR 6.0)

A - Z Mysteries - The Absent Author by Ron Roy (AR 3.4)

Spy School by Stuart Gibbs (AR 5.3)

The BFG by Roald Dahl (AR 4.8)



RISING FOURTH GRADE SCHOLARS

Scholars must read one of the following:

Fantastic Mr. Fox by Roald Dahl

Matilda by Roald Dahl

Scholars may pick 2 of the following:

Chocolate Fever by Robert Kimmel Smith (AR 4.2)

Fudge - a- Mania by Judy Blume (AR 3.3)

Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard Atwater (AR 5.6)

A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning (Book 1) by Lemony Snicket (AR 6.4)

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh (AR 4.5)

The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and Baseball Legend by Sharon Robinson (AR 4.3)

Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (AR 4.4)

The Million Dollar Shot by Dan Gutman (AR 4.2)

Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar (AR 3.3)

I Survived the American Revolution by Lauren Tarshis (AR 4.6)

Who Was Joan of Arc? By Pam Pollack (AR 5.5)

Who Was Paul Revere? By Roberta Edwards (AR 4.8)

Who Was Roald Dahl? By True Kelley (AR 4.6)



Rising 5th Graders

SUMMER READING LIST 2023

Upcoming 5th Graders are expected to read **THREE** books from the list below over the summer break. Each scholar must read both required books (**The Island of the Blue Dolphins and Holes**) and then choose one from the optional category (The Indian in the Cupboard, Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart, or The Sign of the Beaver). Activities will be assigned for all of the books and will be a part of the scholar's grade for the first quarter.

THE SIGN OF THE BEAVER BY ELIZABETH GEORGE SPEAR -- OPTIONAL CHOICE

Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming -- OPTIONAL CHOICE

The Indian in the Cupboard
by Lynne Reid Banks -- OPTIONAL CHOICE

Holes by Louis Sachar -- REQUIRED

**The Island of the Blue Dolphins
by Scott O'Dell -- REQUIRED**



Rising 6th Graders

SUMMER READING LIST 2023

Upcoming 6th Graders are expected to read THREE books from the list below over the summer break. Each scholar must read both required books (**The Bridge to Terabitha and Heroes, Gods and Monsters of the Greek Myths**) and then choose one from the optional category (The Fourteenth Goldfish, The Incredible Journey or Wild Man Island). Activities will be assigned for all of the books and will be a part of the scholar's grade for the first quarter.

The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer Holmes
OPTIONAL CHOICE

The Incredible Journey
by Sheila Burnford -- OPTIONAL CHOICE

WILD MAN ISLAND BY WILL HOBBS
OPTIONAL CHOICE

Heroes, Gods and Monsters of the Greek
Myths by Bernard Evslin -- REQUIRED

The Bridge to Terabitha
by Katherine Paterson -- REQUIRED



Rising 7th Graders

SUMMER READING LIST 2023

Upcoming 7th Graders are expected to read **THREE** books from the list below over the summer break. Each scholar must read both required books (**Bomb and The Devil's Arithmetic**) and then choose one from the optional category (Nothing But the Truth, The Seventh Most Important Thing or A Separate Peace). Activities will be assigned for all of the books and will be a part of the scholar's grade for the first quarter.

Nothing but the Truth by Avi
OPTIONAL CHOICE

The Seventh Most Important Thing by
Shelly Pearsall -- OPTIONAL CHOICE

A SEPARATE PEACE BY JOHN KNOWLES
OPTIONAL CHOICE

The Devil's Arithmetic
by Jane Yolen
REQUIRED

Bomb
by Steve Sheinkin REQUIRED



Rising 8th Graders

SUMMER READING LIST 2023

Upcoming 8th Graders are expected to read **THREE** books from the list below over the summer break. Each scholar must read both required books (**The Outsiders** and **The Sunflower**) and then choose one from the optional category (Red Kayak, The Giver, or The Book Thief). Activities will be assigned for all of the books and will be a part of the scholar's grade for the first quarter.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
OPTIONAL CHOICE

The Giver by Lois Lowry
OPTIONAL CHOICE

RED KAYAK BY PRISCILLA CUMMINGS
OPTIONAL CHOICE

The Sunflower by Simon
Wiesenthal
REQUIRED

The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton
REQUIRED