

# Summer Reading Ideas 2009

## Our Lady of Sorrows School

*Make reading as central to your summer as going to the pool, eating ice cream, and sleeping late. Children build their vocabulary and imagination from listening to stories (see back) as well as reading independently. Happy reading! Mrs. Blair*

This summer, 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be **required** to read **one** selected book and complete a book report form available on the following web site:

<http://www.olsschool.com/academic/library/>

### Required Reading for 5th grade (choose one)

#### **From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler**

by E.L. Konigsburg

Running away to the Metropolitan Museum in New York City, Claudia wants to teach her parents to appreciate her. Her little brother Jamie tags along and they successfully settle in to their new “home”, hiding from the guards. Then, Claudia becomes obsessed with finding out who made a beautiful angel statue whose creator is unknown. The mystery leads them to Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.

#### **Harriet the Spy** by Louise Fitzhugh

Harriet is actually an 11-year-old writer who records what she sees, thinks and feels in her journal. Spying on people, her classmates and friends, comes with the territory and what she writes isn't always nice. That would be boring. What happens when Harriet loses her journal and her friends find it?

### Authors to Enjoy

Avi  
E.D. Baker  
T.A. Barron  
Betsy Byars  
Beverly Cleary  
Andrew Clements  
Suzanne Collins  
Caroline Cooney  
Susan Cooper  
Sharon Creech  
Christopher Paul Curtis  
Roald Dahl  
Kate DiCamillo  
Louise Erdriech  
John Erickson  
Nancy Farmer  
John Feinstein  
Cornelia Funke

Dan Gutman  
Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Virginia Hamilton  
Anthony Horowitz  
Karen Hesse  
Kimberly Willis Holt  
Polly Horvath  
Eva Ibbotson  
Brian Jacques  
Carolyn Keene  
Peg Kehret  
E.L. Konigsburg  
Gordon Korman  
Madeline L'Engle  
Gail Carson Levine  
C.S. Lewis  
Lois Lowry  
Mike Lupica

Jack Gantos  
Laurie Myers  
Diana Napoli  
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
Scott O'Dell  
Linda Sue Park  
Katherine Patterson  
Gary Paulsen  
Rick Riordan  
Louis Sachar  
Lemony Snicket  
Zilpha K. Snyder  
Elizabeth G. Speare  
Jerry Spinelli  
Wendelin Van Draanen  
Deborah Wiles  
Betty Ren Wright  
Jane Yolen

# Great Family Read - Alouds

Mrs. Blair suggests these literary adventures for your summer vacation!

## **Book of a Thousand Days** by Shannon Hale

Remember the maiden locked away in a tower for refusing to marry a man she hates? Hale re-imagines the story through the diary of Lady Saren's maid Dashti. Two suitors show up, one beloved and the other despised. Impersonating her traumatized mistress, Dashti finds herself torn between duty and love.

## **The London Eye Mystery** by Siobhan Dowd

A stranger steps forward with a free ticket to ride the London Eye, an observation ferris wheel. Salim takes it, leaves behind his cousins Ted and Kat, enters the ride, but doesn't get off. Where is he? Follow this page turner in which our two sleuths, Ted with his encyclopedic brain, and Kat with her keen intuition, find their answer.

## **Miss Spitfire: reaching Helen Keller** by Sarah Miller

"It's up to me to show Helen that communication between people exists at all." So Annie Sullivan speaks of her famous pupil, Helen Keller. Drawing from Sullivan's letters, Miller introduces us to Annie Sullivan from the long train ride to Alabama to Helen's first words at the water pump, to the miraculous relationship that develops.

## **The Ranger's Apprentice** series by John Flanagan

Do you like Star Wars, Arthurian legends, Lord of the Rings? You'll like **The Ruins of Gorland**. Will, a ward of Castle Redmont, becomes a Ranger's apprentice (think Jedi knight), learning the secretive skills of this stealth corps. Meanwhile an evil warlord and his followers plan to attack the kingdom.

## **The Dragonfly Pool** by Eva Ibbotson

With World War II underway and threatening air raids in London, Tally's father sends her to the safety of Delderton, a quirky boarding school in the country. Eleven-year-old Tally forms a dancing troupe to go to an international folk-dancing festival in Bergania where the king is refusing Hitler's demands to occupy the kingdom. Friendship, murder, smuggling, isolation and reunion unfold in this enthralling story.

## **The Leanin' Dog** by K.A. Nuzum

Every summer needs a good dog book. Dessa Dean is now in the deep of winter after having lost her mother in a winter storm. Along comes a dog who needs a friend as much as Dessa Dean.

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

### **The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey**

Mr. Benedict gathers together a group of "gifted children looking for special opportunities" to decipher clues and stop villainy. Action, puzzles, traps, villains, tests, perils...these adventure books connect the dots!

## **Percy Jackson and the Olympians (series)** by Rick Riordan

When Percy Jackson learns that he is the modern-day, half-blood son of a Greek god, his life becomes a fantastic quest to save the world. Full of action, adventure, and Greek mythology, the last book came out in May!