



Seton Catholic School
Summer Reading Program
Students Entering 1st through 5th Grade
Summer 2018



Dear Seton Parents and Guardians,

We are excited to launch our *Summer Reading Program* and provide our students with lists of books that appeal to many different interests. We hope that your child will look forward to reading this summer and take the opportunity to engage in many rich and rewarding opportunities to discover books they will truly enjoy.

Research tells us that students need to read during the summer to *maintain* their independent reading levels. In the fall, the impact of a student not having read during the summer months, combined with the fact that many of his or her classmates *did* read during the summer may result in a reading ability gap that could potentially widen each year making it difficult for students to keep up with grade level reading expectations. The research also tells us that we should encourage students to *choose* from a wide variety of books that will allow them to select books that appeal to their individual interests. We want your children to look forward to the *luxury of time* that summer will provide and allow them to experience the joy of reading books they will love. We hope our students will anticipate the publishing of a new book by a favorite author with the same enthusiasm they await the release of a new movie or video game!



Rather than a written assignment based upon summer reading, we ask that students entering grades 1-5 simply keep a reading log, listing the title and the author of each book they read. As an alternative to the written assignment, students will be asked to bring their reading log listing the books they have read over the summer to school in September. With your guidance, they will select their favorite book that was read and present a **“book talk”** for their class. Classroom teachers will work with their students to schedule these book talks sometime during the first few weeks of school.

Parents should feel free to review the list for the grade *above* and *below* their child’s grade to ensure that the books they select are aligned to their child’s reading level. We encourage parents to take an active role in the book selection process and we want you to know that **with parental approval children may select books that are not on the lists to fulfill their summer reading assignment.**



With your support and enthusiasm we want to make this a summer that helps your child *fall in love with reading!* We hope that by providing lists of suggested books that include many titles and authors, by eliminating any written assignment, and by encouraging parents to select and approve books that are not on the list, our students will read many, many books this summer. The door is open for you and your child to choose from fiction, non-fiction, informational, how-to-books, in print or eBook versions. Have fun, read to each other and talk about the books during dinner or while riding in the car. Help your child to see the summer as a time when they can dive into books that feed their imagination and special interests. Think about some of the books you read and loved as a child and consider presenting a *book talk* for your child to spark their interest in reading the same book to create a shared memory.

The lists of books for each grade level, a reading log that may be downloaded, and a detailed description of a “book talk” are all available in the Summer Reading section of our website at www.setonschool.com. Also included are grade level *Summer Literacy Calendars* for June and July with suggested activities for you and your family to enjoy. (These activities are optional – they are provided as a resource for your consideration.)

Best wishes and God’s blessings for a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Seton’s Summer Reading Committee

