

June 2026

Dear Parents,

At St. Paul School, the Administration and Faculty aim to prepare your child in the best way for their future.

To maintain and enhance your child's skills, enrichment work is being assigned for the summer months. Incoming 6th graders are being asked to read *Little Blog on the Prairie* by Cathleen Davitt Bell and answer the questions listed either handwritten on lined paper or typed in Times New Roman 14-point font. Students will **also** choose one of the listed activities to complete and use as a cover sheet. These activities are a review of information covered in other subjects, such as Religion, Science and Social Studies.

All questions will be collected during the first week of school and counted as an ILA project for the first marking period. Points will be deducted for each day the assignment is not turned in. During the first weeks of school, students will also review and take a test on the story, so please make sure that they are paying close attention to the title, author, plot, characters and theme as they are reading. It would be helpful if they had a copy of the book with them at school as well.

Your cooperation, interest, and support are vital. Please provide the proper encouragement and guidance so that your child will be able to achieve their potential and maintain and improve their skills. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: mpugh@stpaulbrl.org.

Have an enjoyable summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Meghan Pugh

Summer Reading Project

Little Blog on the Prairie Book Report

This year in 6th grade, we will be focusing on the various genres of literature (Folk, Historical Fiction, Nonfiction, Mystery, Poetry, Realistic Fiction, and Science Fiction). Over the summer, you will read Cathleen Davitt Bell's *Little Blog on the Prairie*, which is an example of Realistic Fiction. Attached you will find some questions that you will answer as you read the story.

All work will be collected during the first week of school and counted as an ILA project for the first marking period. As always, remember that you will lose points for errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation, so please proofread your work. Check to be sure that you are turning in **all** parts of the assignment, because points will be taken off your grade for every day that the assignment is late.

When you return to school, you will also take a test on the book, so please make sure that you are paying attention to the title, author, plot, characters and theme as you are reading! We will review in class as well, so please make sure you have a copy of the book with you.

Pick **one** of the following activities to complete along with the questions. This should be attached as a cover sheet. (10 points)

1. There are numerous references to Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House on the Prairie* book series, as well as the TV series based on them. Read a book from the series or watch a couple of episodes of the show and write a two-paragraph essay comparing and contrasting *Little Blog on the Prairie* to what you read or watched.
2. Learn to do or make something that was expected of kids in 1890 (like churn butter) and document your experience through pictures **and** step-by-step directions.
3. Research information about some of the animals that are mentioned as being on the farm, like the family's chickens. Pick your favorite and write a one-paragraph report on what makes this animal interesting. Create a diagram of its life cycle, complete with labeled, colored pictures.

Answer the following questions **after** you read each chapter. Make sure that you are answering each part of the question:

1. **Chapter 1:** Genevieve says her ideal vacation was last year's trip to Club Med, because "when you get bored, the counselors will take you windsurfing and you can eat anything you want." Describe your dream vacation and explain why you'd enjoy it. (2 points)
2. **Chapter 2:** Genevieve convinces her mother and Betsy to let her keep her box of Clearasil so she can "start high school not covered in acne scars." What's the one thing you couldn't live without? Why? (2 points)
3. **Chapter 5:** Ka has a lot of theories about why Ron and Betsy formed the camp (You'll see even more as you continue to read the book). Come up with your own. What do you think their previous lives were like? (1 point)
4. **Chapter 7:** Gen quickly realizes that things will be different from what she expected. What would you find to be the most difficult thing about living in 1890? Why? (2 points)
5. **Chapter 8:** Gen sings "Beat It" while weeding the corn to pass the time, and keep bears away. What songs do you listen to to help you work? How do they help you? (2 points)
6. **Chapter 10:** Have you ever lied about being able to do something, the way that Gen does? Explain why you lied and write about what happened. Did anyone find out you were lying? (3 points)
7. **Chapter 11:** Compare how Gen describes doing laundry with her mother at camp to how this chore is done in your family. (4 points)
8. **Chapter 12:** Despite not being vegetarians at home, why does the Welsh family seem to have switched to a vegetarian diet at their cabin? Would you make the same choice? Explain why or why not. (3 points)
9. **Chapter 17:** Each of the kids does something different in the "electricity shack." What would you have done when you joined them? Why? (2 points)
10. **Chapter 23:** What do Gen's parents do when Bryn tells them what's happening at her house? Do you think your family would be as brave in this situation? What would you do? (3 points)
11. **Chapter 24:** What do Gen's parents bring with them when they return? What would you want for your first meal away from camp? (3 points)
12. **Chapter 28:** Answer the question that Gen asks at the end of the chapter. What would you plan for Nora's visit if she were coming to your house? Why? (3 points)
13. **Epilogue:** Do you think Gen's family will return to camp next year? Explain why or why not. (2 points)