



BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL 2023

This summer, let us be connected through books in the marvelous world of reading. Nurturing a love of reading has many rewards!

For the 2023-2024 school year, our summer reading program will be, once again, a school-wide focus on STEM topics. Each class will be required to read one book and when they return to school in August, teachers will follow up with additional meaningful discussions and assignments in class. For the MS students, please be prepared for a quiz on the first day of school. We will plan to have a STEM Summer Display sometime in September to see the wonderful work done by your children.

Please bring your book with you on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 23, 2023

Rising Kindergarten- *If I Built A House* by Chris Van Dusen

In *If I Built a Car*, imaginative Jack dreamed up a whimsical fantasy ride that could do just about anything. Now he's back and ready to build the house of his dreams, complete with a racetrack, flying room, and gigantic slide. Jack's limitless creativity and infectious enthusiasm will inspire budding young inventors to imagine their own fantastical designs.

Parents, we do not expect your child to be able to read independently *If I Built A House*. We hope you will enjoy it together a few times over the summer.

Rising 1st Grade- *CATastrophe! A Story of Patterns* by Ann Marie Stephens

A crew of hungry kittens and their captain head to the lake to catch some dinner, but the fish have surprises in store for them. Even before the cats encounter the fish, they run into trouble. What happens when confused kitties paddle every which way? Or when they all lean in the same direction? A pattern is needed to avoid a catastrophe!

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Rising 2nd Grade- *The Magnificent Makers; How to Test A Friendship* by Theanne Griffith

Violet and Pablo are best friends who *love* science! So, when they discover a riddle that opens a magic portal in the Science Space at school, they can't wait to check it out! Along with their new classmate, Deepak, the friends discover a magical makerspace called the Maker Maze. It's a laboratory full of robots, 3D printers, an anti gravity chamber, and more. Doors line the walls of the makerspace, with a new science adventure waiting behind each one.

With the help of a hilarious and odd scientist, the Magnificent Makers embark on out-of-this world adventures that help them master the science concepts they are learning in school.

Rising 3rd Grade- *Frankie Sparks (Third-Grade Inventor) and the Class Pet* by Megan Frazer Blakemore

The best thing EVER is happening in Frankie Sparks' third grade class: They are getting a class pet! Their teacher, Miss Cupid, tells them they will vote on their pet, but it must meet some "parameters." Frankie thinks that a rat—just like the rats in her beloved Aunt Gina's lab—would be the perfect fit. However, her best friend, Maya, doesn't think a rat would be great at all. They are somewhat gross and not as cool as a hermit crab, which is Maya's top choice. Using her special workshop, can Frankie find a way to convince her teacher and her best friend that Team Rat is the way to go?

Rising 4th Grade- *The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies

When Evan Treski finds out that his younger sister is skipping third grade and joining his fourth grade class, he is not happy. The last thing he wants is Jessie showing him up with her perfect grades, and he *definitely* doesn't need her help getting his lemonade stand up and running . . . even if the business side of things has him confused.





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Middle School

Rising 5th – *The Lemonade Crime* (Book 2) by Jacqueline Davies

Friends, justice, and . . . lemonade? Evan and Jessie are hot on the trail of the missing lemonade-stand money. Follow this brother-sister duo as they take justice into their own hands and explore the meaning of fairness, integrity, and repairing relationships on the playground and in business in this installment of the award-winning Lemonade War series. Evan Treski thinks fourth grader Scott Spencer is their prime suspect, so he challenges him to a game of basketball. However, his little sister Jessie disagrees. Her solution? Turn the playground into a full-blown courtroom with a judge, jury, witnesses . . . and surprising consequences. Nevertheless, what happens when neither solution is what they expected?

Rising 6th- *Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer Holm

In Jennifer L. Holm's New York Times bestselling, Newbery Honor winning middle grade historical fiction novel, life isn't like the movies. Then again, 11-year-old Turtle is no Shirley Temple. She's smart and tough and has seen enough of the world not to expect a Hollywood ending. After all, it's 1935 and jobs and money and sometimes even dreams are scarce. So when Turtle's mama gets a job housekeeping for a lady who doesn't like kids, Turtle says goodbye without a tear and heads off to Key West, Florida to live with relatives she's never met. Florida's like nothing Turtle's ever seen before though. It's hot and strange, full of ragtag boy cousins, family secrets, scams, and even buried pirate treasure! Before she knows what has happened, Turtle finds herself coming out of the shell she's spent her life building, and as she does, her world opens up in the most unexpected ways.

Rising 7th – *Insignificant Events in the Life of A Cactus* by Dusti Bowling

Aven Green loves to tell people that she lost her arms in an alligator wrestling match, or a wildfire in Tanzania, but the truth is she was born without them. And when her parents take a job running Stagecoach Pass, a rundown western theme park in Arizona, Aven moves with them across the country knowing that she'll have to answer the question over and over again.

Her new life takes an unexpected turn when she bonds with Connor, a classmate who also feels isolated because of his own disability, and they discover a room at Stagecoach Pass that holds bigger secrets than Aven ever could have imagined. It's hard to solve a mystery, help a friend, and face your worst fears. But Aven's about to discover she can do it all . . . even without arms.





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Rising 8th- *Leap of Faith* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley- Mrs. Kearney has the books.

Abigail is starting a new middle school, a Catholic school, because she's been expelled from her old one. She's sure that this place will be just the same as the last, and no one will listen to her here either. Even her parents don't seem able to really hear the truth about what happened at the previous school. Now she finds herself in a community of people who *do* listen, who want to be her friends, and who help her discover a talent for theater that she never knew she had.

Converting to Catholicism began merely as a way to annoy her parents, but quickly it becomes more. Could she be developing real faith?

