



## 3rd Grade 2026 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

“Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift.” *Kate DiCamillo*

Providence Classical Academy seeks to develop good readers and desires for our students to be lifelong readers. Learning to read well requires direction, discipline, and diligence just as if you were training to be a fine musician or amazing athlete. This is why it is so important to encourage and inspire our Knights to read throughout the summer. We hope you will encourage your child to take this challenge and help them by saturating your family with books that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). We have chosen each book on our summer reading lists with the hope that it cultivates a greater love for the written word.

The books on our suggested reading lists may be found in our public libraries, Amazon, or book stores (Barnes and Noble; 2nd and Charles; & Thrifty Peanut). Audio books from Hoopla/Libby are also great options for students to listen to as they are playing this summer. The Reading Lists and Reading Log will also be posted on our school website.

### TO EARN A GOLD, SILVER, OR BRONZE MEDAL, STUDENTS MUST...

- Record the title and number of minutes for each book on the Reading Log.
- Our reading lists are to help you with selections for reading material. Students may log books not on our lists, too.
- Electronic books may be read. Audio books are also permissible, but please note that we **highly encourage** students to follow along with a hard copy of the text. For our emerging readers going into 1st grade, we do allow minutes to be recorded when students are **read to** by an adult.
- Please make sure you **record the number of minutes read** in the **minutes** column. This is what we will calculate minutes from - we have no way to quantify what your child has read if this is left blank.
- Minutes must be logged and initialed by a parent each day on the provided Reading Log form.
- Add up the number of minutes read at the end of the summer.
- Reading Logs **MUST be returned to the teacher at either “Meet the Teacher” or the first day of school.** This will count as the first reading homework grade of the school year. Summer Reading medals will be awarded based on the reading log counts and given at the Summer Reading Awards Assembly at one of our Friday chapels within the first few weeks of school. **\*\*No late Reading Logs will be awarded medals.\*\***
- Incoming 2nd-6th graders **MUST COMPLETE REQUIRED** reading book selection and written assignment as reflected on each grade list. The 3rd grade required book is **Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo**. Copies of this book are available to be checked out this summer at the front desk with Mrs. Mary. The writing assignment is attached in this packet.

### Incoming 1st-3rd grade medal & grade qualifications

- o Gold = 750 minutes, grade: 100
- o Silver = 550 minutes, grade: 95
- o Bronze = 450 minutes, grade: 85
- o Minimum = 350 minutes, grade: 75
- o Any minutes BELOW the minimum = grade: 50
- o No Reading Log = grade: 0



Summer Reading Challenge Book List  
Incoming Third Grade

<b>BOOK TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>
<b>REQUIRED READING: Because of Winn Dixie</b>	<b>K.DiCamillo</b>
Anna Hibiscus	Atinuke
A Light in the Attic	Shel Silverstein
Baby Island	Carol Ryne Brink
Balto and the Great Race	Elizabeth Kimmel
A Bear Called Paddington	Michael Bond
Bears on Hemlock Mountain	Alice Dalgliesh
Big Susan	Elizabeth Orton Jones
Black Beauty	Anna Sewell
Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of the Iliad	Rosemary Sutcliff
Book of Cowboys	Holling C. Holling
Book of Indians	Holling C. Holling
Brightly of the Grand Canyon	Marguerite Henry
Children's Book of Heroes	William Bennett
City: A Story of Roman Planning & Construction	David Macaulay
Chocolate Fever	Robert Kimmel Smith
Chocolate Touch	Patrick Catling
Detectives in Togas	Henry Winterfield
Dr. Doolittle	Hugh Lofting
Door in the Dragon's Throat	Frank Peretti
Dragon of Lonely Island	Rebecca Rupp
Enormous Egg	Oliver Butterworth
Esiotrot	Roald Dahl
Fantastic Mr. Fox	Roald Dahl

Frindle	Andrew Clements
Ginger Pye	Eleanor Estes
Green Ember	S. D. Smith
Half Magic	Edward Eager
Henry Huggins	Beverly Cleary
Honey Cake	Joan Betty Stuchner
Homer Price	Robert McCloskey
Jenny and The Cat Club	Esther Averill
Justin Morgan Had a Pony	Marguerite Henry

The Milly-Molly-Mandy Storybook	Joyce Brisley
Mouse and the Motorcycle	Beverly Cleary
Myths of the Greeks and Romans	D'Aulaire
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
One Day in the Desert	Jean Craighead George
One Day in the Prairie	Jean Craighead George
Owls in the Family	Farley Mowatt
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie
Pinocchio	Carlo Collodi
Poetry for Young People: Lewis Carroll	Edward Mendelson
Pollyanna	Eleanor H. Porter
Pompeii	Karen Ball
Ralph S. Mouse	Beverly Cleary
Puppy Summer	Meindert de Jong
Roxaboxen	Alice McLerran
Ship	David Macaulay
Shoeshine Girl	Clyde Robert Bulla

Song of the Swallows	Leo Politi
----------------------	------------

The Swiss Family Robinson	Johann David Wyss
The Time Machine	H.G. Wells
The Usborne Book of Greek Myths	Various
Yellow and Pink	William Steig
Where The Sidewalk Ends	Shel Silverstein
Winnie the Pooh	A.A. Milne
The Wind in the Willows	Kenneth Grahame

**SERIES BOOKS (any title in series)**

A to Z Mysteries	Ron Roy
American Girl or American Girl Mysteries	Various
Boxcar Children	Gertrude Warner
Childhood of Famous Americans (Biography)	Any author
Classic Starts Series	various
Dear America Series	various
Dorling Kindersley Readers	various
Encyclopedia Brown	Donald Sobol
Great Illustrated Classics	any author
Hank the Cowdog	John Erickson
Hero Tales	Dave and Neta Jackson
Hardy Boys	Franklin Dixon
Magic Tree House Series	Mary Pope Osborne
My America Series	various
The Nancy Drew Notebooks	Carolyn G. Keene
Nest for Celeste	Henry Cole
Ramona Quimby	Beverly Cleary
Step into Reading	various

Stepping Stones Classics, History or True Stories	various
Sugar Creek Gang	Paul Hutchens
The Littles	John Peterson
The Royal Diaries series	various
Treasury of Illustrated Classics	Any author
Ten Boys Who Changed The World	Irene Howat
Ten Girls Who Changed The World	Irene Howat
Usborne Young Reading	various
Who Was Claude Monet? (or any other title in Who Was or Who Is...? series)	Ann Waldron
What was Pompeii? (or any other title in What Was, What Is or Where Is...? Series)	various





## Summer Reading Assignment

### 3rd Grade

#### Due: First Day of School

In *Because of Winn Dixie*, we see that Opal's life changed for the better when she became friends with Winn Dixie, Ms. Gloria Dump, Otis, Sweetie Pie Thomas, and others! Think about a person or pet who became your friend and made a huge difference in your life. Write them a thank you letter telling them what a huge impact he or she had on your life. Use the attached format (with all the parts of a friendly letter) that you learned how to use in second grade. Write 5-7 sentences describing how thankful you are for them and specific ways they encouraged you. Don't forget to use your excellent handwriting, spectacular spelling, correct capitalization and punctuation, and add dress ups to your sentences to make them more descriptive for your friend! You will be able to share your letter and about your person with your 3rd grade teacher and new classmates when we return to school in August!

