



5th 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 5th grade required book is **Wonder** by R.J. Palacio. 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 4th-6th grade medal & grade qualifications:

Gold = 1000 minutes, grade: 100

Silver = 750 minutes, grade: 95

Bronze = 550 minutes, grade: 85

Minimum = 450 minutes, grade: 75

Any minutes **BELOW** the minimum = grade: 50

No Reading Log = grade: 0

Summer Reading Challenge Book List
Incoming Fifth Grade

BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR
REQUIRED READING: Wonder	R.J. Palacio
A Dog's Life	Ann Martin
A Long Way From Chicago	Richard Peck
A Year Down Yonder	Richard Peck
Abel's Island	William Steig
Adam of the Road	Elizabeth Janet Gray
Banner in the Sky	James Ramsey Ullman
Bark of the Bog Owl	Jonathan Rogers
Baseball in April	Gary Soto
Black Beauty	Anna Sewell
Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Paterson
Calico Captive	Elizabeth George Speare
Call It Courage	Armstrong Sperry
Call of the Wild	Jack London
Cheaper By The Dozen	Gilbreth and Carey
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	Ian Fleming
Come On, Seabiscuit!	Ralph Moody
Eight Cousins	Louisa May Alcott
Esperanza Rising	Pam Munoz Ryan
Five Little Peppers	Margaret Sidney
Frindle	Andrew Clements
Gentle Ben	Walt Morey
Green Ember	S.D. Smith

Half Magic	Edward Eager
Helen Keller	Stewart Graff
Henry and the Chalk Dragon	Jennifer Trafton
Hitty	Rachel Field
Incredible Journey	Brunford
Indian Captive	Lois Lenski
Iron Thunder	Avi
Julie of the Wolves	Jean Craighead George
Landing of the Pilgrims	James Daughtery
Little Men	Louisa May Alcott
Little Women	Louisa May Alcott
Lily's Crossing	Patricia Reilly Giff
Listening For Lions	Gloria Whelan
Loser	Jerry Spinelli
Maniac Magee	Jerry Spinelli
Midnight Fox	Betsy Byars
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH	Robert C. O'Brien
My Brother Sam is Dead	James Lincoln Collier
My Friend Flicka	Mary O'Hara
My Side of the Mountain	Jean Craighead George
National Velvet	Enid Magbold
No Promises in the Wind	Irene Hunt
Nothing to Fear	Jackie French Koller
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
Once on This Island	Gloria Whelan
Owls in the Family	Farley Mowat
Old Yeller	Fred Gipson

Ocean of Truth: The Story of Sir Isaac Newton	McPherson
Penderwicks	Jeanne Birdsall
Peter Pan	James Barrie
Pocahontas: Young Peacemaker	Leslie Gourse
Poetry For Young People: Robert Louis Stevenson	Frances Schoonmaker
Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe

Sarah Bishop	Scott O'Dell
Search for Delicious	Natalie Babbitt
Souder	William H. Armstrong
Summer of the Monkeys	Wilson Rawls
Summer of the Swans	Betsy Byars
Swiss Family Robinson	Johann Wyss
Soup	Robert Newton Peck
Stories Julian Tells	Ann Cameron
The Stray	Dick King-Smith
The American Revolution	Bruce Bliven, Jr.
The Boy Who Fell Off the Mayflower	P.J. Lynch
The Fantastic Ferris Wheel: The Story of Inventor George Ferris	Betsy Harvey Kraft
The Lantern Bearers	Rosemary Sutcliff
The Light in the Forest	Conrad Richter
The Mouse With the Question Mark Tail	Richard Peck
The Slave Dancer	Paula Fox
The Twenty-One Balloons	William Pene du Bois
The Yearling	Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
Traitor: Case of Benedict Arnold	Jean Fritz

Tuck Everlasting	Natalie Babbit
The War Horse	Michael Morpurgo
Up A Road Slowly	Irene Hunt
Usborne Stories From Shakespeare	Anna Claybourne
Wanda Gag: The Girl Who Loved to Draw	Deborah Kogan Ray
White Fang	Jack London
Winston Churchill	Katie Daynes
SERIES BOOKS (ANY TITLE IN SERIES)	
A Wrinkle in Time	Madeline L'Engle
Anne of Green Gables	Lucy Maud Montgomery
Christian Biographies for Young Readers	Simonetta Carr
Black Stallion	Walter Farley
The Mysterious Benedict Society	Trenton Lee Stewart
Treasures in the Snow	Patricia St. John
Wingfeather Saga	Andrew Peterson
Auggie and Me: 3 Wonder Stories	PJ Palacio

Summer Reading Written Assignment
Incoming Fifth Grade
Due: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

“You really are a wonder, Auggie. You are a wonder.”

~Auggie’s mom

At the end of the book, Auggie’s mom reminded him that he is a wonder. Your summer writing assignment is to think of a “wonder” in your life. Brainstorm a list of people and then narrow it to the top 3! Then make a list of adjectives about each of these 3. Then choose your top “wonder” to write a 3 paragraph essay describing their “wonder” characteristics and how you see these in his/her life. Feel free to use your IEW skills with your keyword outlines, and don’t forget to use your IEW dress ups to make your writing more interesting for your readers! FINAL DRAFT must be in CURSIVE!

Brainstorm Bubble:

3 Wonders: (With adjectives listed)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

And the WONDER is.....

