

St. George's Episcopal School

2026 Summer Reading List for Students Entering Fourth Grade

Dear Future 4th Grader,

I am so excited about the upcoming school year. 4th grade is so much fun, and you have so many new adventures to look forward to. Some of the greatest adventures we have will be in a book next year. As a warmup for the school year, summer reading is for you to experience the joy of reading and to foster the love of literature through books and stories you may not normally pick out for yourself. Don't worry, there will be so much time for you to choose any book you want during the school year but focus on these over the summer. Reading includes listening to stories as well as reading books by oneself. Involvement with literature can include your entire family. Share, discuss and enjoy this special time together in a good book. Please make sure your parents approve your book choices.

This summer choose **two books** from **the list** that follows. You can DEFINITELY choose more than two, but I am requiring that you read at least TWO while you're out of school. There are so many great choices on this list though, so don't be afraid to read as many as you want. Also, please choose a book you have not read previously.

CHOICES in READING:

- You may want to write short chapter summaries to help you remember the books when we come back to school, but it is not required.
- Be prepared to do an in-class assignment on these books during the first few days of school.

DiCamillo, Kate; Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures

Self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman is not easily surprised but finding a flying, poetry-writing, superhero squirrel and meeting "profoundly strange" William Spiver puts a whole new spin on her life.

Appelt, Kathi; The Underneath

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack and two kittens born underneath the house endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations before they finally end up reunited and free.

Applegate, Katherine; The One and Only Ivan

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Norton, Mary; The Borrowers

Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock.

Scieszka, Jon; Summer Reading is Killing Me!

At the beginning of summer vacation Joe, Sam, and Fred find themselves trapped inside their summer reading list, involved in a battle between good and evil characters from well-known children's books.

Grabenstein, Chris; Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library

Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero, the famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello, with other students but finds he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape. Book #1 in the Mr. Lemoncello's Library series.

Winthrop, Elizabeth; The Castle in the Attic

William has a fantastic present in the attic that is able to transport him to another land and another time for a challenging and exciting adventure.

Lindgren, Astrid; Pippi Longstocking

This is the story of a lucky little girl who lives with a horse and a monkey--but without any parents--at the edge of a Swedish village and is involved in many escapades.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds; Shiloh

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner. The owner is a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

Patterson, James; Treasure Hunters

Following clues left by their missing father, the four Kidd siblings sail from the Caribbean to New York City to finish the dangerous quest of their treasure-hunting parents. Book #1 in the Treasure Hunter Series.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler; The Boxcar Children

The resourceful Alden children survive without adult supervision and make a home for themselves in an abandoned boxcar.

Haskel, Merrie; Handbook for Dragon Slayers

Thirteen-year-old Princess Matilda, whose lame foot brings fear of the evil eye, has never given much thought to dragons, attending instead to her endless duties and wishing herself free of a princess's responsibilities. When she must escape an evil cousin's attempt to steal her land, she goes on the adventure of a lifetime.

Winkler, Henry; Niagra Falls, Or Does It?

Inspired by the true life experiences of Henry Winkler, whose undiagnosed dyslexia made him an underachiever while growing up, the Hank Zipzer series is about the high-spirited and funny adventures of a boy with learning differences. Hank finds himself in hilarious predicaments that he has to weasel his way out of one at a time.

Selznick, Brian; Wonderstruck

Ben and Rose secretly wish for better lives. Ben longs for the father he has never known. Rose dreams of a mysterious actress whose life she chronicles in a scrapbook. When Ben discovers a puzzling clue in his mother's room and Rose reads an enticing headline in the newspaper, both children set out alone on desperate quests to find what they are missing.

Colfer, Chris; Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell

Through the mysterious powers of a book, twins Alex and Conner leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic, where they come face-to-face with the fairytale characters they grew up reading about.

Martin, Ann; Rain Reign

Rose has Asperger's syndrome and an obsession with homonyms. She shares an inseparable bond with her beloved dog Rain, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, she is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels to hopefully be reunited with her best friend.

Hunt, Lynda Mullaly; Fish in a Tree

Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is dyslexic and doesn't know how to read. Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the troublemaker, and with his help, Ally learns she has nothing to be ashamed of.

Lupica, Mike; Summer Ball

When you're the smallest kid playing a big man's game, the challenges never stop—especially when your name is Danny Walker. Leading your travel team to the national championship may seem like a dream come true, but for Danny, being at the top just means the competition tries that much harder to knock him off. Now Danny's leaving Middletown for the summer and heading to Right Way basketball camp, where he's out of his element and maybe out of his league. Old rivals and new battles leave Danny wondering if he really has what it takes to stand tall.

Happy Reading,

Mrs. Brown