

Providence Grammar Summer Reading

Providence yearns to see good readers, and reading well requires direction, discipline, and diligence. For nine months of the year, our teachers strive arduously toward the task of teaching both mechanics and comprehension, analysis and appreciation. They assign books to be read, questions to be answered, and ideas to be pondered. Their direction demands discipline and diligence, and our students dutifully comply. Reading for understanding begins with the necessity of hard work, without doubt, but it takes flight in its accomplishment by inspiring.

The love of reading good books, by contrast, is born, not built; it is always cultivated, never compelled. The enjoyment of that which is good, true, and beautiful is the fruit of all genuine leisure and the proper object of our God-given freedom to choose wisely. That a book we are reading does not have to be read is often what brings the greatest pleasure. For this reason we have chosen to draft a summer list of recommendations, rather than of obligations.

We long to see good readers of great books; we also desire to cultivate a love of great books in our students. Encourage your children to read. Read with them, around them, and to them. But when students ask, “Why ought I read this book or that?” consider the answer not must, but should.

Reading Lists

Faculty members have taken great care in creating specialized book lists for each grade level. Primary considerations in creating the lists include appropriateness of content, level of challenge, and overall fit with each grade level curriculum. Whenever possible, students are encouraged to read books they haven’t previously read. All books listed are the *unabridged* editions.

Also provided is a Reserved Book List. Since these books are read throughout our curriculum, students should refrain from reading from the Reserved Book List. This will avoid frustrations for both student and teacher when those books are read in class. Parents, however, are strongly encouraged to read from this list to better familiarize themselves with the books their children will be reading throughout the school year.

Book lists for each grade level, as well as the Reserved Book list, can be found on the school’s website.

Grammar School Incentive Program

Grammar students (incoming 1st – incoming 6th graders) have each received a Reading Bingo card to track their summer reading. Prizes can be earned for Bingos made by reading books and filling in squares. Students’ questions about Summer Bingo are answered below.

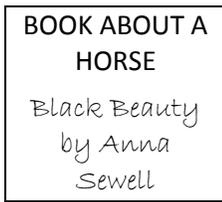
What am I supposed to do? How does this work?

Enjoy reading books! Read lots of them! Ask a parent to show you your grade’s booklist from the school website. Choose a book you haven’t read before. Read it. When you have finished, write it on your Bingo card in the appropriate square. Then read another book! You might want to plan ahead and choose your next book and the next in such a way that you will soon be able to make a Bingo on your Bingo card.

How do I keep track of what books I have read?

This is easy! Just write the title and author of the book in the bingo square it matches.

Here is an example:

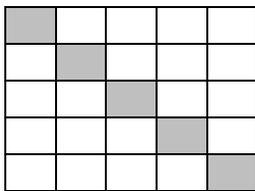


***Black Beauty* is a book about a horse. It's also fiction. Can I write it down in both squares then?**

No. Books only count for one square each. Read a new book for each square.

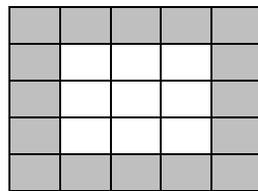
How do I earn prizes?

There are 3 ways to earn prizes. Look at these examples of how to fill in Bingo cards.

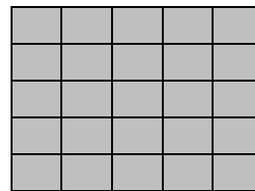


Classic Bingo
Level 1 prize

(any direction, up to 3 prizes)



Perimeter Bingo
Level 2 prize



Bingo Blackout
Level 3 prize

I'm looking at my Bingo sheet and see FREE SPACE (ANY BOOK). What does that mean?

Free spaces may be filled with any book you like, as long as it is at your grade level (compare it to others on the booklist or ask your mom or dad what they think.) If you are entering grade 2-6, the book also needs to be at least 100 pages long.

I really loved a book I read during the Readathon. It's on the booklist for my class. Can I read it again for Bingo?

Do you know that little song that starts, "Make new friends, but keep the old..."? It is wonderful to keep the old friend of a familiar book. But in Summer Bingo, please make a new friend and read a new book. No rereading old books for Summer Bingo.

May I read from a different grade's booklist? Their books look pretty good too.

There are many books on your own list to pick from. You shouldn't run out. But if you like, you may read a book from the list one grade level up from your own to fill one of your "Challenge" squares. And of course, for "Free Spaces", you may choose your own reading level appropriate book, from another grade's book list or just from your own bookshelf.

How much time do I have to work on this? How do I claim my prize?

You have the whole summer to read! Hooray! Return your completed Bingo sheet (book titles and authors listed in the squares, signed at the bottom by you and a parent) to your teacher during the first week of school. Prizes will be awarded in September.