



ST. MARK'S
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

May 2024

Dear Rising 5th Grade Students and Parents,

I am so excited to work with you in the coming 2023-2024 school year. I hope you have a restful summer and that you also get to spend your summer with a few good books. Your required assignment for summer reading is to read 1 of the following **2024-2025 Bluebonnet CHAPTER books. Your choices are:**

1. *The Ghost of Spruce Street* by Nancy Tandon
2. *New Dragon City* by Mari Mancusi
3. *Odder* by Katherine Applegate
4. *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga
5. *Something Like Home* by Andrea Beatriz Arango
6. *You Are Here: Connecting Flights* edited by Ellen Oh
7. *The Fire, the Water and Maudie McGinn* by Sally J. Pla

We will discuss these books and share our projects during the first week of school. On the next page, you will find your choice of projects for your summer reading book. The purpose of these activities is to encourage you to think critically about what you are reading, share your understanding in creative ways, and to foster discussion when the school year starts in the fall.

Your summer reading project will be due the first week of school on **Friday, August 23, 2024**. Use the included Summer Reading Project Rubric to guide your work. Please don't hesitate to email over the summer if you have any questions. I can't wait to share these summer book projects and celebrate your hard work in the fall. I look forward to seeing you next year. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rainman

5th Grade Language Arts

srainman@stmes.org



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5th Grade Summer Reading Assignments

Choose **ONE** of the following projects to complete after you have read your summer reading book.

Option 1: Postcards

Create 3 postcards that you will “send” to me. The postcard should be written in the voice of one of the characters in the book and addressed to me. You will bring the 3 postcards to school on our first day. On the back of each postcard, write a short summary of an important event from the book. Be sure to address the postcard and draw a stamp. On the front, illustrate the event. Create a unique illustration that is not something already drawn in the book. Consider what a postcard looks like and how you can recreate one for this project! You may need to look up what a postcard looks like to make the best project possible. Remember, your text is very important.

Option 2: Vision Board

Envision the different aspects of the novel: characters, setting, and major events. Use magazines, online photos, or other sources to illustrate the novel. This might be a poster, or a tri-fold. Make sure that you represent each aspect. Limit the use of words, but use them where needed to ensure observers' understanding of the story.

Option 3: Graphic Novel (not an option if your selected book is a graphic novel)

Write a graphic novel version of your book. You should use 3 pieces of printer paper. Each side should have 5 panels of varying sizes. Do not use the back of a page. I should be able to set the 3 pieces of paper side by side and see the story. The first page should have an extra panel for the title, author's name, and your name. That means you should have 15 panels for the story, and one extra panel for the title, author's name, and your name. Color your illustrations and include the main points from the novel.



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Reading Project Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Understanding of the Novel	The reader's understanding of the novel is evident based on the project. They have captured major themes, or ideas, in the novel. They demonstrate understanding of the characters by including personality traits and beliefs.	The reader's understanding of the novel may be evident in your project.	It is unclear that the reader understands the bigger themes asked of the project.	The reader's project does not demonstrate understanding of the novel.
Creativity	The reader's project demonstrates creativity and individual thinking in presentation. The reader has taken time to present their work in a visually appealing way. Examples of ways to do this include: using a straightedge to draw lines, tracing over pencil in a fine-tipped marker, backing any printed and cut paper to give it a border and "finished" look, centering titles / words, etc.	The reader's project meets most of the criteria expectations.	The reader's project does not meet several of the criteria expectations.	The reader's project is completed with minimal creativity and does not meet any of the expectations.
Evidence of Information and Organization	The complete work, ideas, and details are presented in an organized manner so that the thoughts are easy to follow.	The reader included most aspects of the project instructions, but not all.	The reader has included a few of the project elements, but not all.	The reader has not included any of the project elements. It is obvious that care was not taken in the completion of the assignment.
Writing Conventions: - Capitalization - Usage - Punctuation - Spelling	Punctuation is correct, spelling is accurate, and there are no major errors in grammar.	There are some errors in writing conventions — few punctuation, spelling, and/or grammar issues — but not enough to cause difficulty in reading and understanding of the text.	Several punctuation, spelling, and grammar errors stand out in the writing.	Punctuation, spelling, and grammar errors are very common and stand out.

Total: ____/16