

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL
ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING LIST 2023
Kindergarten Entering First Grade**

REQUIRED READING – *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers

Upon return to school, students should be prepared to complete a classroom activity that correlates with the required summer reading.

***Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal** When Alma's father shares family stories about the origins of her long beautiful name, she gains an appreciation for its uniqueness and connection to her history. Martinez-Neal uses smudgy graphite and colored pencil to convey a soft palette that gently transports readers into Alma's rich ancestral past. **2019 Caldecott Honor Book ©2018 Grade Level K-3**

***Berry Song* by Michaela Goade** On an island at the edge of a wide, wild sea, a girl and her grandmother gather gifts from the earth. Salmon from the stream, herring eggs from the ocean, and in the forest, a world of berries. **Caldecott Honor Book ©2022 Grade Level 1-2**

***Blackout* by John Rocco** One hot summer night in the city, all the power goes out. The TV shuts off and a boy wails, "Momm!" His sister can no longer use the phone, Mom can't work on her computer, and Dad can't finish cooking dinner. What's a family to do? **Caldecott Honor Book ©2011 Grade Level: K-2**

***Don't Throw It to Me!* by David A. Adler** Mo may not be the biggest, the strongest, or the fastest football player, but he won't let that stop him from playing! **Theodor Seuss Geisel Award ©2021 Grade Level K-2**

***Eyes That Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho** A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's. They have eyes that kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea, crinkle into crescent moons, and are filled with stories of the past and hope for the future. **©2019 Grade Level K-2**

***Finding Winnie* by Lindsay Mann Malaspina** In 1914, Harry Colebourn, a veterinarian on his way to tend horses in World War I, followed his heart and rescued a baby bear. He named her Winnie, after his hometown of Winnipeg, and he took the bear to war. **2016 Caldecott Medal Book ©2015 Grade Level 1-2**

***Hello Ruby: Adventures in Coding* by Linda Kiukas** Without requiring a computer, Hello Ruby introduces kids to a girl, Ruby, who is determined to solve any puzzle. Ruby makes friends with foxes, robots, and leopards as she strives to break down big problems into small ones. After each chapter, kids are prompted to help Ruby solve problems by applying computational thinking. **©2015 Grade Level 1-3**

***I Did It!* by Michael Emberley** A girl tries and tries again to learn to ride a bicycle and all her friends provide words of encouragement. **Theodor Seuss Geisel Award ©2022 Grade Level K-1**

***Katherine Johnson (You Should Meet)* by Thea Feldman** About a brilliant mathematician who worked at NASA in the early 1950s until retiring in 1986. Katherine's unparalleled calculations (done by hand) helped plan the trajectories for NASA's Mercury and Apollo missions (including the Apollo 11 moon landing). She is said to be one of the greatest American minds of all time. **©2017 Grade Level 1-3**

***Let's Go for a Drive!* by Mo Willems** In this Elephant & Piggie book, Gerald and Piggie want to go for a drive, but as Gerald thinks of each thing that they will have to take along, they come to realize that they lack the most important thing of all. **Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book ©2012 Grade Level K-2**

***Nana in the City* by Lauren Castillo** A young boy spends an overnight visit with his nana and is frightened to find that the city where she lives is filled with noise and crowds and scary things. But then Nana makes him a special cape to help him be brave, and soon the everyday sights, sounds, and smells of the city are not scary—but wonderful. **2015 Caldecott Honor Book ©2014 Grade Level 1-3**

***Outside Inside* by LeUyen Pham** From Caldecott honoree LeUyen Pham, *Outside, Inside* is a moving picture book that captures the unforgettable moment during the pandemic when people all over the world came together. It celebrates the essential workers, frontline workers, and communities that worked with each other to protect our loved ones. **@2021 Grade Level K-2**

***Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist* by Julie Leung** Once in America, Tyrus seized every opportunity to make art, eventually enrolling at an art institute in Los Angeles. Working as a janitor at night, his mop twirled like a paintbrush in his hands. Eventually, he was given the opportunity of a lifetime—and using sparse brushstrokes and soft watercolors, Tyrus created the iconic backgrounds of Bambi. **American Library Association's 2021 Asian/Pacific American Award ©2019 Grade Level 1-2**

***The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster* by Mo Willems** The Pigeon is on an emotional—and physical—roller coaster. Since learning about the existence of roller coasters, he's become giddy with excitement. The Pigeon prepares mentally: He'll need a ticket and "exemplary patience" to wait in line. **©2022 Grade Level 1-2**

***Thank You, Omu!* by Oge Mora** Everyone in the neighborhood dreams of a taste of Omu's delicious stew! One by one, they follow their noses toward the scrumptious scent. And one by one, Omu offers a portion of her meal. Soon the pot is empty. **2019 Caldecott Honor Book ©2018 Grade Level K-3**

***Thunder Boy Jr.* by Sherman Alexie** Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. Just because people call his dad Big Thunder doesn't mean he wants to be Little Thunder. He wants a name that celebrates something cool he's done, like Touch the Clouds, Not Afraid of Ten Thousand Teeth, or Full of Wonder. **New York Times Notable Children's Book of the Year ©2016 Grade Level 1-3**

***We Are in a Book!* by Mo Willems** In this Elephant & Piggie book, Gerald and Piggie discover the joy of being read. But what will happen when the book ends? **2011 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor ©2010 Grade Level 1-2**