

# Ready, Set, Summer!

June, 2011

Dear Third Grade Parents,

**Open House for parents and students Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 until 6:00: We will have an informal “open house” in the third grade classroom. (There will be no formal presentation.) It’s an opportunity to meet your new teachers outside the rush of the first day of school. Come if you can, but don’t change your beach/vacation plans! You are welcome to drop off your child’s summer reading assignment and completed math workbook. You may also pick up books to be covered.**

Summer work consists of two components. The reading requirement is to read **two chapter books**, and this assignment is detailed on a separate attached sheet. For math the review book needs to be **completed**. Let me make some general comments on reading and math.

**Reading** I strongly encourage your children to read everyday. Reading means more than books. It means magazines, menus, signs, board game directions and cards, maps, and more! If you don’t use the public library, please consider joining this summer. What a great economical resource it is! Many libraries sponsor children’s activities, and they all maintain reading lists with age appropriate books. If you are planning a trip to a different state(s), get a library book and read about it ahead of time. Study road maps with your child. We learn US geography in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, so you’ll be laying groundwork for that. Summer is a great time to try some different books. Parents, I urge you to read out loud to your child(ren). This models good reading to the child, provides special time together, and it’s fun!

HOW MANY BOOKS CAN THE THIRD GRADE CLASS READ? Keep a log of all the books (chapter books & picture books) that you read on the **form provided**. We will add them up and see how many books the whole class read!

**Math** To use the math book to greatest advantage, **pace** the work throughout the summer. Consider sitting down with your child and a calendar to plan a schedule to complete the work. Post the schedule for this work and have your child check off as pages are completed. Please correct your child’s math and ask that incorrect problems be redone. **Cut out and use the addition and subtraction flash cards at the back of the review book. Memorization of these basic facts is an important foundation in math competence.** Please help your child to memorize these facts **and/or** to maintain them. **Keep these cards at home for use after the school year starts, too.**

Anytime you use a number you use math. Movie times, trip mileage, measuring anything, keeping score in sports.....all involve math. Two other math suggestions: Get an inexpensive non-digital (analog) clock for your child to practice telling time. Second, have your child count coins and bills for money practice.

As a Eucharistic Minister at our school Masses, I have given Holy Communion to the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders several times since their First Communion. I have been impressed by their reverence in receiving the sacrament. Please cherish their innocent holiness and build upon it by faithful attendance at Sunday Mass during the summer and daily prayer. Have a good summer. May your families stay safe and enjoy some special time together. I look forward to working with you and your children next year. God bless you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Lee Charles". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Mary Lee Charles

**Summer Reading Activity:**  
**Incoming Third-Grade Students**  
**Blessed Sacrament School**

**Assignment:** Students are to read two chapter books over the summer. Complete one activity for each book. **EVERYONE MUST DO #1.** For your second book, **choose one of the options under #2.**

**Activity #1:** On scrap paper write a “**rough draft**” which should include the author’s name, setting (place and general time period of the book), and the main characters. In the “what happens” section of your “**rough draft**” tell in your own words what you think are the most important things that happen in the story. Include how the book ends. Revise this “**rough draft**”: 1.) Read it out loud to see if it makes sense. 2.) Make sure your sentences are complete. 3.) Correct your spelling. 4.) Finally, copy your revised “**rough draft**” neatly onto the form provided. Please use your best handwriting.

On the left hand side of the form – Draw a picture that relates to the story. Take your time and be careful. Please use **color!!** Write the book’s title above the picture box. Underneath your picture write a caption (just a few words will do) that tells about your picture.

**Activity #2:** Complete **one** of the following activities to do for your second book.

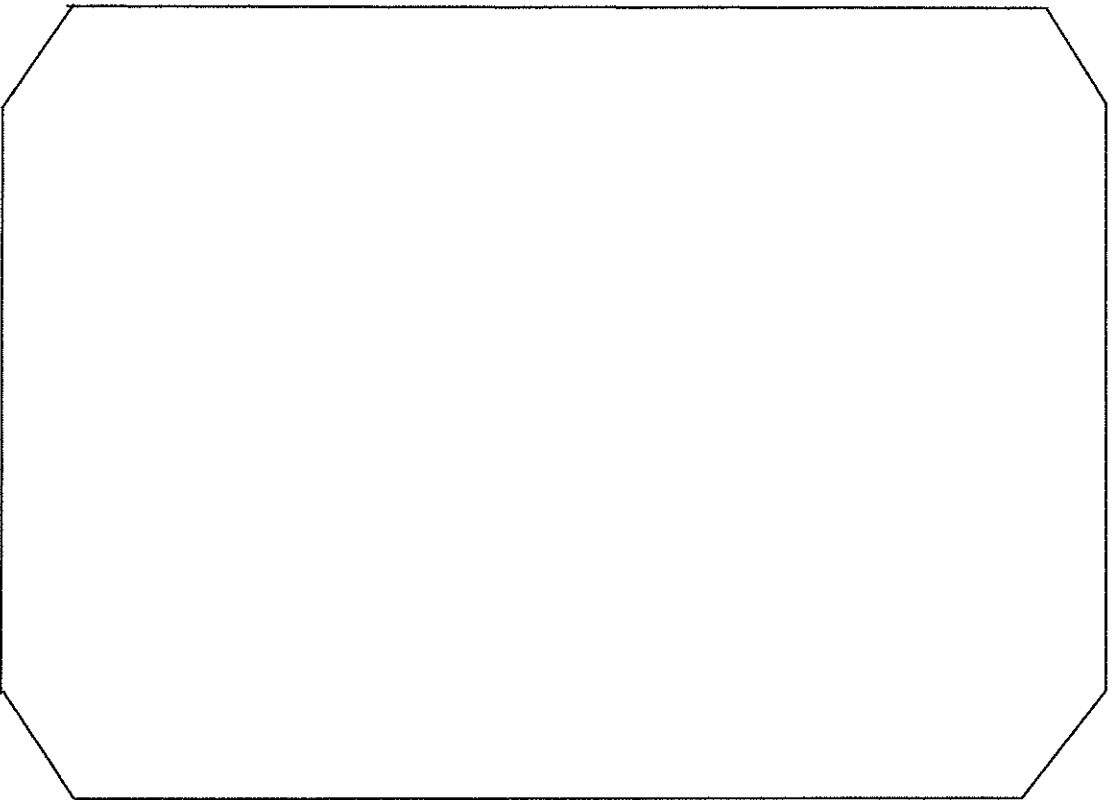
- 1) Make a diorama or model of an event or scene in the book. Label it with an index card telling the title and author of the book and 1-2 sentences describing your diorama or model.
- 2) Write a letter to one of the characters. Please use lined paper for this. (3-ring binder paper is good for this.) Please also give the title and author of the book. Consider asking the character questions and responding to what he/she did in the story.
- 3) Create a collage about the story. On the back give the book title and author and your own name.
- 4) Make a “wanted” poster for a character in your book. Include the following:  
**a)** drawing of the character; **b)** a description of the character; **c)** either the character’s bad deeds or good deeds; **d)** any other information that you think is important to help “catch” him or her! Use color and be neat. Include the book title and author.

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**LABEL EVERY ITEM WITH YOUR NAME!**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_



Caption: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Characters: \_\_\_\_\_

What Happens: \_\_\_\_\_

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MY BOOKS --- SUMMER READING 2011

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