

ST. CROIX COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
FIFTH GRADE SUMMER READING – 2008

Dear Parents,

Summer reading has become a tradition at Country Day School. There is something wonderful about curling up with a good book and losing all sense of time and place! This year's fourth-graders (fifth-graders next September) will be asked to read two books of four offered for their grade level this summer.

For your convenience, we will take orders for those who would like to purchase their summer reading books in advance. You may, of course, choose to purchase the books on your own. ***The deadline for payment and order is Monday, April 28th.*** Order blanks and payment are to be turned in your child's homeroom teacher.

You will receive a copy of your order blank, initialed, as a receipt. Books will be handed out during the last week of school for reading during the summer. Students will also receive a general study guide to use as they read. During the first week of school, students will be expected to write about their reading.

We hope this procedure works well and that all students read not only the required summer books, but many others as well. You will find many suggestions at the American Library Association's web site:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/literaryrelated.htm> Enjoy!

The Fifth Grade Teachers

ORDER FORM
FIFTH GRADE READING LIST

_____	<u>Everest Book One: The Contest</u> , Korman	\$5.50
_____	<u>Bold Journey: West With Lewis and Clark</u> , Bohner	\$ 7.50
_____	<u>The Miraculous Journey</u> , DiCamillo	\$10.50
_____	<u>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</u> , Kinney	\$8.50
_____	Total Number of Books	Total amount enclosed _____

Student Name

Parent Signature

FIFTH GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

Everest Book One: The Contest, Gordon Korman

Four kids. One mountain. They come from all across America to be the youngest kid ever to climb Everest. But only one will reach the top first. The competition is fierce. The preparation is intense. The challenge is breathtaking. When the final four reach the higher peaks, disaster strikes-and all that separates the living from the dead is chance, bravery, and action.

Bold Journey: West with Lewis and Clark, Charles H Bohner

Written from the point of view of a young member of the Corps of Discover, Bold Journey is an insightful and absorbing narrative of the famed Mississippi to Pacific expedition as experienced by the men who lived it. As young Hugh chronicles the adventures, the hardships, and the occasional boredom of this monumental journey, he offers vivid glimpses into the personalities of Lewis and Clark. He also begins to grow in his understanding of people who are different from himself...Characters come to life, allowing readers to understand the personality conflicts, the arduous physical strain, and the dangers the party went through before reaching Oregon. ALA

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, Kate Dicamillo

This achingly beautiful story shows a true master of writing at her very best. Edward Tulane is an exceedingly vain, cold-hearted china rabbit owned by 10-year-old Abilene Tulane, who dearly loves him. Her grandmother relates a fairy tale about a princess who never felt love; she then whispers to Edward that he disappoints her. His path to redemption begins when he falls overboard during the family's ocean journey. Sinking to the bottom of the sea where he will spend 297 days, Edward feels his first emotion—fear. Caught in a fisherman's net, he lives with the old man and his wife and begins to care about his humans. The tender look at the changes from arrogance to grateful loving is perfectly delineated. Bagram Ibatoulline's lovely sepia-toned gouache illustrations and beautifully rendered color plates are exquisite. An ever-so-marvelous tale – *Starred Review, School Library Journal*

Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Jeff Kinney

Kinney does a masterful job of making the mundane life of boys on the brink of adolescence hilarious. Greg is a conflicted soul: he wants to do the right thing, but the constant quest for status and girls seems to undermine his every effort. His attempts to prove his worthiness in the popularity race (he estimates he's currently ranked 52nd or 53rd) are constantly foiled by well-meaning parents, a younger and older brother, and nerdy friends. While Greg is not the most principled protagonist, it is his very obliviousness to his faults that makes him such an appealing hero. Kinney's background as a cartoonist is apparent in this hybrid book that falls somewhere between traditional prose and graphic novel. – *School Library Journal*