



# Summer Reading

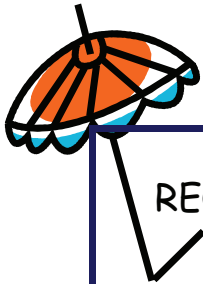
for students entering 6th grade

summer reading information is posted on the school's website: [www.stfrancisschool.org](http://www.stfrancisschool.org)

## IT'S VACATION! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!



Learning and Reading researchers continually trumpet the fact that reading is the single most effective activity to prevent summer learning loss (a.k.a. the Summer Slump). Studies show that students who read as few as six books during the summer months gain or maintain reading skills achieved during the preceding school year, while students who don't read during the summer may fall back as much as a grade level in their



## REQUIRED SUMMER READING and ASSIGNMENT

for soon-to-be 6th graders

This summer you'll need to complete the Required Reading and assignment as well as two Reader's Choice books. You may ask for help understanding the assignment, but you must draft and edit it independently. The ideas and editing should reflect your abilities, not those of someone who helped you.

### **Required Reading and Assignment:**

Read The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis and answer the following questions. (If you didn't receive a copy at the end of school, please stop by the St. Francis School office to pick it up.)

- ◆ What did you learn about the Civil Rights struggle from this book that you didn't know before?
- ◆ Which character did you like the most? Explain why.
- ◆ Which character did you like the least? Explain why.
- ◆ Do you think Byron and Kenny should have kept the incident at Collier's Landing a secret from their parents? Explain.
- ◆ Why do you think the author describes the Watsons' trip south in detail, but doesn't describe the trip back to Detroit?

**Reader's Choice and Assignment:** Choose at least two additional books to read this summer. Complete a book report/ project on at least one of them to be presented the first day of school.

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### **SPANISH STUDENTS:**

Read Pobre Ana by Blaine Ray and write a short essay about this book in Spanish. (If you did not do so before the end of school, please stop by the St. Francis School office and purchase the book for \$6.)



Reading is fun, but it's also good for your continued intellectual growth — you have to exercise the muscle between your ears to keep it strong, toned, and ready for heavy lifting in the fall.

