

**Immaculate Conception School
Library Gift Book List
Fall - 2010**

Each entry begins with the author's name and is followed by the title, the number of pages in the book, the price, a general grade level, and a very brief summary. An unpagged book suggests a picture book format.

All listed books have been purchased for the library and may be selected as gift books. The collected funds are used to purchase new books, which may appear on future lists.

At times books are donated commemorating special times or persons: birthdays, holidays, grandparents, or teachers. Appropriate bookplates are placed in the books and names are listed in the Library Gift Register. Notes of acknowledgment are sent to the honorees.

**Suggested Books
Grades K-3:**

Barrows, Annie, *Ivy Bean and the Ghost that Had to Go*, Gr. 1-3, 136 pp., \$12.00. New friends Ivy and Bean return, and this time there's a ghost with them. It's shy Ivy who sees the mist coming out of the girls' bathroom at school, and loyal Bean soon sees it, too. Despite doubting friends and irritated teachers, the girls are determined to rid the bathroom of this malevolent presence.

Bauer, Marion Dane, *The Very Little Princess*, Gr. 3-5, 128 pp., \$12.00. On the day her mother drives her to the faraway town where her grandmother lives, Zoey learns several startling things: that she has a grandmother, who welcomes Zoey into her home; that her mother intends to leave her there indefinitely; and that the tiny china doll in her mother's old room sometimes comes to life. Handed down through generations of Zoey's foremothers,

the imperious doll, Princess Regina, is a strong yet ultimately vulnerable character in her own right.

Casanova, Mary. *Some Dog!* Gr. K-2, 32 pp. \$12.00. A stray dog moves into George's formerly peaceful home, dazzling the man and woman of the house with lively tricks and antics that just leave George exhausted.

Colfer, Eoin. *Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth*. Gr. 2-4, 102 pp., \$12.00. Will's brother tries to scare Will with the story of Captain Crow, a ghostly pirate who haunts the nearby seashore. When the underwater rocks known as Captain Crow's teeth are glowing, it means that Captain Crow is searching for a cabin boy exactly Will's age to take away to his ghostly ship.

Cox, Judy, *One is a Feast for Mouse A Thanksgiving Tale*, Gr. K-2, 30 pp., \$12.00. The remains of a Thanksgiving dinner are irresistible to a little mouse, who creeps out of his hole to help himself to one small pea. But soon, greed gets the better of him and before he knows it, he has taken one of every leftover tidbit. Before he makes it safely back home, however, the cat spies him and pounces, knocking everything on the floor. The mouse escapes just in time, while the cat gets the blame, and to his delight he finds one "teensy-tiny, round and toothsome, green and luscious pea" for which he exclaims: "Give thanks! One is a feast for me!"

DiCamillo, Kate, *Mercy Watson Something Wonky This Way Comes*, Gr. 2 -3 96 pp., \$12.00. Some may find it wonky to take a pig to the movies. But not Mr. and Mrs. Watson, who think the title of the film, **WHEN PIGS FLY**, is inspirational and not their beloved Mercy, who is inspired by the fact that the drive-in proudly serves real butter on its Bottomless Bucket of popcorn. So when they pull up in their convertible, Mercy lifts her snout and becomes a pig on a mission — for what is more heavenly than being hot on the trail of a true butter smell?

Flieschman, Sid, *The Dream Stealer*, Gr. 2-5, 96 pp., \$12.00. Based on a short tale around a Dream Stealer, Zumpango, who perches outside windows waiting to snatch nightmares from sleeping children. Scared by some of the critters he has lassoed, he starts taking happy dreams. But he hasn't reckoned with Susana, who wants back her interrupted dream of a happy reunion with a friend with whom she has had a fight. She tricks Zumpango into flying her to his lair to take back the dream. There she faces down and outfoxes the nightmare creatures and agrees to be Zumpango's new friend if he will leave her good dreams alone.

Foxworthy, Jeff, *Silly Street*, Gr. K-2, 32 pp., \$12.00. Anything goes on Silly Street. There's a flying squirrel circus, pink elephant races, and even a pony that eats fried baloney. At the candy booth you can buy gummy yum noodles and rainbow jaw busters. At the hat store you can purchase a helmet, a tiara, or a halo—if you happen to be an angel.

Gran, Julia. *Big Bug Surprise*. Gr. K-2, 32 pp. \$12.00. Prunella knows so much about insects that people get bored listening to her talk, but when her classroom fills up with bees during show-and-tell, Prunella saves the day.

Harvey, Tom and Allie, *Tiger Pups*, Gr. K-3, 32 pp., \$12.00. This is the true story of Nasira, Anjika, and Sidani, three white Bengal tiger cubs whose mother stopped nursing them only fifteen hours after their birth. Luckily, two zookeepers, Tom and Allie Harvey, were keeping a close eye on them.

Himmelman, John, *Katie Loves the Kittens*, Gr. K-2, 32 pp., \$12.00. Katie, the dog, is utterly infatuated with her owner's new kittens. Aroooooo! howls Katie eagerly whenever she sees the tiny felines, but her vocalizing, leaping and avid tail-wagging only scare the living daylights out of them. Katie learns, after some setbacks, that desperately wanting to make friends is not

necessarily a good starting point; sometimes, it's better to let the other side take the lead.

Larson, Kirby, *Two Bobbies*, Gr. K-2, 32 pp. \$12.00. A true story of a cat and dog named Bobbi and Bob Cat and how they survived during Hurricane Katrina.

Manning, Peyton, Eli and Archie, *Family Huddle*, Gr. 1-3, 40 pp., \$12.00. Huddle up with the most famous family in football—the Mannings! Peyton and Eli Manning are now NFL superstars, but they are still kids in Family Huddle. Follow along as Eli and Peyton pile into the car with older brother Cooper for a trip to visit their grandparents. Their dad, former NFL star Archie Manning, is at the wheel, with mom Olivia at his side. The boys joke around and play football at every opportunity, running fun plays like the buttonhook, the quarterback sneak, and the hook and ladder.

McCarthy, Meghan. *Seabiscuit the Wonder Horse*. Gr. K-3, 30 pp., \$12.00. Seabiscuit was the grandson of one of the greatest racehorses of all time, but he's lost practically every race he's ever run. With a new trainer he began winning races. Could Seabiscuit really beat the Triple Crown Champion?

Pitcher, Caroline, *Just One More Swim* Gr. K-1, \$12.00. This book tells the story of two young polar bear cubs taking their first nervous steps toward the ocean, under the caring, watchful eye of their mother. A tale of encouragement and parental love.

Polacco, Patricia. *For the Love of Autumn*. Gr. K-2, 32 pp. \$12.00: Miss Parks, a new teacher, is devastated when her cat, Autumn, disappears during a storm, but with the help of her students, she finds not only Autumn but also the man of her dreams.

Sanders Well, Linda, *Maggie's Monkeys*, Gr. K-2, 32 pp., \$12.00. A family of monkeys has moved into the refrigerator! At least, that's what Maggie says. Of course, no one else can see them, but that doesn't stop Mom and Dad from playing along, even going out of their way to accommodate the invisible visitors.

Shannon, David. *Too Many Toys*, Gr. K-3, 32 pp., \$12.00. Spencer has too many toys. They spill from closets, cascade down staircases, and generally occupy him and frustrate his parents in equal measure. Finally Spencer's mom has had enough, and after a litigious negotiation, she helps Spencer pack a box of toys to give away. At the last minute, though, Spencer reconsiders the plan in unexpected ways.

Stevens, Janet. *The Great Fuzz Frenzy*. Gr. K-2, 42 pp., \$12.00. When a tennis ball lands in a prairie dog town, the residents find that their newfound frenzy for fuzz creates a fiasco.

Stewart, Joel, *Dexter Bexley and the Big Blue Beastie*, Gr. K-3, 32 pp., \$12.00. Dexter Bexley rides his scooter into a hungry Big Blue Beastie who thinks about eating him up. The boy appeases the monster numerous times with engrossing activities such as delivering flowers, solving crimes, and eating a Beastie-size sundae. When Dexter runs out of distractions and expects to be devoured, Beastie introduces his own surprises.

Trine, Greg. *Marvin Beederman Superhero The Curse of the Bologna Sandwich*. Gr. 2-4, 138 pp. \$12.00. Marvin Beederman is a pretty good superhero, his only weakness is bologna at the deli. Still, Melvin manages to keep the city of Los Angeles free of nasty villains, once he's airborne.

West, David. *Ankylosaurus the Armored Dinosaur*, Gr. 4-6, 32 pp., \$12.00. What is an ankylosaurus. Learn the facts about this amazing dinosaur. A graphic novel.

Young, Amy, *The Mud Fairy*, Gr. K-3, 40 pp. \$12.00. Wearing pink and tiptoeing through

the dewdrops is for wimps! Emmelina would rather play with her friends, the frogs. But can a fairy with an independent streak earn her wings if she goes against the fairy code?

Wonders of Learning Discover Snakes, Gr. K-3, 45 pp., \$12.00. Learn more about the slithering marvels of nature. Take a closer look at their world through this amazing visual reference guide.

Wonders of Learning Discover Dinosaurs, Gr. K-3, 45 pp., \$12.00. An adventure into the world of dinosaurs!

Wonders of Learning Discover Bugs Gr. K-3, 45 pp., \$12.00. Step into the amazing world of bugs. Meet these minibeasts and learn more about them through this vibrantly visual reference guide!

Wonders of Learning Discover Sharks Gr. K-3, 45 pp., \$12.00. Dive into the deep blue sea and learn about the list of sharks!

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Suggested Books

Grades 4-8:

Avi, *The Traitors Gate*, Gr. 5-8, 351 pp., \$12.00. John Huffam's father works as a clerk in the Naval Ordinance Office in London, and he is suspected of trying to sell a secret about a new weapon to pay his gambling debts. When he is arrested as a debtor, 14-year-old John, must seek financial help from a distant relative, leave school for employment, and unravel the mystery surrounding his father and try to find out why so many people are spying on the Huffams.

Barber, Tiki and Ronde, *Wild Card*, Gr. 4-6, 160 pp., \$12.00. The eighth-grade season couldn't be going better for the Hidden Valley Eagles. The team is beginning to gel with their new head coach, and Tiki and Ronde and their teammates are counting on only wins with the play-offs in clear sight. But report card time spells trouble for the

Eagles when Adam Costa, their ace kicker, is benched for academic probation. It's school policy: Without the grades, there's no playing time. With only a few games left before the play-offs, the team's hopes are shot. Will the Eagles be shut out of play-off contention for the first time in seven years? Or can the team that plays together study together too?

Bauer, Marion Dane, *The Very Little Princess*, Gr. 3-5, 128 pp., \$12.00. On the day her mother drives her to the faraway town where her grandmother lives, Zoey learns several startling things: that she has a grandmother, who welcomes Zoey into her home; that her mother intends to leave her there indefinitely; and that the tiny china doll in her mother's old room sometimes comes to life. Handed down through generations of Zoey's foremothers, the imperious doll, Princess Regina, is a strong yet ultimately vulnerable character in her own right.

Berry, Julie. *The Amaranth Enchantment*. Gr. 6-8, 302 pp., \$12.00, Orphaned at age five, Lucinda, now fifteen, stands with courage against the man who took everything from her, aided by a thief, a clever goat, and a mysterious woman called the Witch of Amaranth, while the prince she knew as a child prepares to marry, unaware that he, too, is in danger.

Feinstein, John, *Change Up Mystery at the World Series*, Gr. 4-8, 320 pp., \$12.00. Teen reporters Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson are covering baseball's World Series, and during the course of an interview with a new hot pitcher, they discover more than a few contradictions in his life story. What's he hiding? An embarrassing secret or a possible crime? Let the investigation begin!

Fleschman, Sid, *The Dream Stealer*, Gr. 2-5, 96 pp., \$12.00. Based on a short tale around a Dream Stealer, Zumpango, who perches outside windows waiting to snatch nightmares from sleeping children. Scared

by some of the critters he has lassoed, he starts taking happy dreams. But he hasn't reckoned with Susana, who wants back her interrupted dream of a happy reunion with a friend with whom she has had a fight. She tricks Zumpango into flying her to his lair to take back the dream. There she faces down and outfoxes the nightmare creatures and agrees to be Zumpango's new friend if he will leave her good dreams alone.

French, Vivian, *The Robe of Skulls*, Gr. 5-7, 200 pp., \$12.00. High above the mountain village of Fracture, trouble is brewing. The sorceress Lady Lamorna wants a skull-studded gown of deep black velvet, but her treasure chest is empty of gold. That doesn't stop her, however from kidnapping, blackmailing, and using more than a little magic to get what she needs. Will her plans be foiled by the heroic Gracie Gillypot, two chatty bats, a gallant (if scruffy) prince, the wickedest stepsister ever, a troll with a grudge, and some very ancient crones?

Gutman, Dan. *The Talent Show*. Gr. 4-8, 210 pp., \$12.00. Cape Bluff Elementary School hosts a talent show and a ballerina, comedian, rapper, singer, and rock musician enter, but no one knows which kid will win.

Hesse, Karen. *Brooklyn Bridge*, Gr. 6-8, 240 pp., \$12.00. In 1903, school lets out for summer vacation, and Joseph Michtom dreams of visiting Coney Island. But the 14-year-old's plans have to be placed on hold while he helps out in his father's toy-making business. The family stumbles on an idea that leads to the creation of the first teddy bear and achieves financial success.

O'Roark Dowell, Frances, *Falling In* Gr. 4-6, 256 pp., \$12.00. Feeling like a changeling in her own world, sixth-grader Isabelle Bean falls into another, where she meets her healer grandmother, Grete, and corrects a misunderstanding that had terrorized generations of children.

Paulson, Gary. *Woods Runner*, Gr. 6-8, 176 pp., \$12.00. Though his parents are city folk trying to hack out a life on the frontier in Pennsylvania, 13-year-old Samuel is entirely at home in the woodland wilderness that surrounds their little settlement. Soon after word arrives of the uprising in Concord and Lexington, Samuel returns home from a jaunt in the forest to find his home burned down, the neighbors slaughtered, and his parents missing. Samuel tracks his captured parents through the countryside to British-held New York, encountering scalping bands of Iroquois, pillaging squads of mercenary Hessians, and a few hardy, helpful rebels along the way.

Santopolo, Jill, *Alec Flint Super Sleuth, The Nina, The Pinta and The Vanishing Treasure*. Gr.4-6, 192 pp., \$12.00. Alec Flint is practicing to be a super sleuth. He's even got a pair of super sleuth pants with lots of pockets to hide his detective tools, and a sidekick, Gina, who's a little bit bossy, but a really great detective and friend. When his dad, a local police officer, tells Alec the Christopher Columbus exhibit has gone missing from the town museum, Alec is on the case! With the help of Gina and his fourth grade history class, Alec is determined to uncover the truth!

Thompson, Colin, *The Floods Good Neighbors* Gr. 4-6, 224 pp., \$12.00 The Addams Family returns, this time as the Floods, an exceptionally strange family of wizards and witches that includes a beautiful mother, Mordonna; a child completely covered in hair; and Betty, the normal-looking one. While essentially goodhearted, the Floods suffer from the worst neighbors ever. The Dents steal cars, fight, and make so much noise the Floods cannot concentrate on their magic. Mrs. Dent even foregoes searching for her lost son to watch her favorite television show, *Mega-Extreme Celebrity Really Dumb Fat Ugly Idiot Loser Makeover*. Systematically, the Floods eliminate each of the Dents in a variety of ways, mostly benign.

Tooke, Wes. *Lucky: Maris, Mantle, and my Best Summer Ever*, Gr. 4-6, 180 pp., \$12.00. In the summer of 1961, Louis, who stinks at stickball, manages to make a difficult catch of a foul ball at Yankee stadium. This leads to an invitation from Roger Maris to visit the Yankee's clubhouse and an offer of a job as one of the team's batboys. In the course of the summer, Louis forms a friendship with Maris (who dubs him Lucky) as he and Mickey Mantle chase Babe Ruth's single-season homerun record. Things at home are more challenging; Louis struggles with his divorced parents and a resentful stepbrother.

Wallace, Rich. *Sports Camp*. Gr. 4-8. 149 pp., \$12.00. Eleven-year-old Riley Liston tries to fit in at Camp Olympia, a summer sports camp where he is one of the youngest boys.