

Dear New 4th Grade Friends,

We are getting ready for a fabulous, fun-filled time in 4th grade. Our journey into the Middle Ages will begin with your summer reading assignments. We will be expecting our 4th grade knights to be ready with their assignments on the first day of school.

For your first reading assignment, please read *Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo. This is a great story about an adventurous mouse. We want you to be ready to join in a book discussion before school begins. You will watch the movie, have popcorn, and visit with your new 4th grade teachers. Your parents will be emailed with the date.

Also, please read *The Making of a Knight* by Patrick O'Brian. This book will prepare you for your journey into a time of castles and kings. After reading this book, please write a paragraph in your best cursive writing. Summarize the top things you must do to become a good knight. Remember the topic sentence and concluding sentence.

We hope you have a fun and relaxing summer. We look forward to a wonderful 4th grade year with you. Remember you are treasured and loved by your teachers and by Jesus.

Love,
Your Providence 4th Grade Teachers

The Tale of Despereaux

By: Kate DiCamillo

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences using your best CURSIVE handwriting.

1. List three mice rules that Despereaux breaks in the beginning of the story. What punishment does he receive from the Mouse Council?

2. How are Miggery Sow and Princess Pea different? How are they alike?

3. Describe Despereaux's dream about the Knight. How does the dream help Despereaux on his quest?

4. Which characters help Despereaux overcome the challenges he faces on his quest to save the Princess Pea? How does each character help him?

5. What are some themes (messages/lessons) we see through this story?

6. Draw your favorite part of this story below.

