

Battle of the Books!

Dear Students and Parents:

We are pleased to introduce you to an exciting reading opportunity for our students. Our school has been invited to participate in a reading program and competition hosted by Immaculate Conception School in North Little Rock, Arkansas. Many Catholic schools across the state will also be participating. We hope that you will agree that this is a wonderful initiative for our students.

The “**Battle of the Books**”, fondly known as “**BOB**”, is designed for middle school students (grades 4-6) as an independent reading program that culminates in a healthy competition. The competition promotes teamwork, is structured to be fun, and it challenges students to be knowledgeable about literature! The goal is to recognize students who enjoy reading and to encourage other students to experience reading in a new manner. The participants will be representing our school as student ambassadors and will have the opportunity to meet other Catholic students in Arkansas.

The program, hosted by Immaculate Conception School, North Little Rock, invites students at various reading levels and grade levels to participate. The independent reading requirements afford students who read at a slower pace the same opportunities as other participants. The program is not designed to prohibit students because of marginal reading grades. Therefore, any limitations are self-imposed. “BOB” promotes enthusiasm, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. Please see the attached rules for more specific descriptions of the program.

BOB requirements have been discussed with students in the library. Parents and students should discuss this opportunity and the requirements. Students intending to participate must **complete the attached registration and return it no later than October 11, 2019** to be considered. Depending on the total number of participants, a preliminary competition will be held in March or April at our school. Our school’s top team will advance to the “Battle” in North Little Rock on **May 5, 2020**. Only the top placing team will travel to North Little Rock to compete in the competition and represent our school.

On behalf of our BOB Committee, we welcome you to the “Battle of the Books”. We look forward to your participation!

Feel free to contact us with any questions.

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**Immaculate Conception School, North Little Rock
14th Annual Battle of the Books Competition!**

Student name _____

Grade _____ Teacher _____

All participants will receive a t-shirt. Please circle the appropriate size below:

Child S M L **Adult** S M L XL

I, _____ (parent), have discussed the “Battle of the Books” program with my child and understand that my child will be making a commitment as a team member and as a representative of our school to participate fully in the program. Teams are not allowed to substitute members unless an emergency arises, therefore students should be aware of the commitment. My child understands that in order to actively participate that he/she must read the books and be willing to work with team members. The time requirements outside of reading the books will be minimal and will not interfere with school work. Confirm this agreement by signing below:

Parent Signature

Student Signature

There is a **\$14.00 fee** per participant to cover the costs of t-shirts, library books, etc. This will be billed as an incidental fee. The fee is nonrefundable.

Parent volunteers are needed to assist with the competition. Please indicate below if you would like to help and provide contact information.

Name _____ Phone _____

Please return by October 11, 2019.

Battle of the Books Rules (General Overview)

Goals

1. To encourage and recognize students who enjoy reading.
2. To broaden reading interest.
3. To further involve students with quality literature.

Competition

1. The event is a timed trivia contest in which teams compete simultaneously to answer questions from a list of pre-selected books.
2. Teams will consist of 5-6 students.
3. Team members will be responsible for reading all of the books per the selected list and have enough knowledge to be an asset to their team.
4. Teams will compete with other participating Catholic schools.
5. A preliminary competition will be held in April at IC in Fort Smith.
6. One qualifying team from our school will compete in the 14th Annual Battle of the Books Competition! The event will be held on **May 5, 2020** at Immaculate Conception School in North Little Rock. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 placing teams and the team winning first place will be acknowledged with medallion ribbons to wear. A SPIRIT Award will be presented to the team with the most enthusiasm during the competition.
7. No cell phones or electronic devices will be allowed on the competition floor by any student participants.

Game Play

1. Participant registration deadline is October 11, 2019. Teams will be selected based on participation and booklist will be distributed after the appropriate number of copies of the books can be obtained.
2. Students must READ, READ, READ! A limited number of copies of the books will be available in the library and will be checked out on a first come, first serve basis. Provisions will be made so that students are not allowed to keep the BOB copies out for lengthy intervals or check out multiple books from the booklist.
3. A team captain will be selected per team. All team members will participate in the competition; however, the team captain is ultimately responsible for answering the questions based on the team answers.
4. Team members will want to practice by making notes and sample questions while reading. We recommend that the books be read the first time for enjoyment and then several more times in order to develop a more profound understanding and to develop quiz materials. All team members should be knowledgeable regarding all of the selected books; however, prior to the Battle, the team captain may assign 2-3 books to a team member i.e., asking the member to be an expert in those particular books.

Game Day

1. Teams will stand at a table in a designated area. Each team will be provided with title cards from the book list. A predetermined number of questions will be asked simultaneously to all teams. Team members will have 15 seconds in order to properly select the correct book title. Members will quietly discuss their answers and the team captain will make the appropriate selection holding the card face down. The timekeeper will announce time elapsed and the narrator will ask the team captains to hold up their book titles. Team members must remain behind their team table for the duration of the competition.
2. A panel of judges will then score the responses. Teams answering correctly will be awarded a point.
3. At the end of the competition the 3 teams awarded the most points will be rewarded.
4. Teams may not substitute players unless an emergency arises and the substitution is approved by the BOB committee.
5. Table Banner: Each team should bring a banner to hang on the front of their table with their team name on it. It should approximately 3 ft. x 5 ft.
6. All props must be on the floor in front of the table, not on top of the table.