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Journalism 1

Professor Tropin

St. Mary's Bookworms

As I stepped through the doors of St Mary the Assumption School, I was transported back in time to my own elementary school years. The doors, despite being regulation size, seemed as if they were made for little people. Walking into the office to sign in, the secretaries immediately knew I was from Loyola. They were extremely nice and helped me locate the bookworm club in the library. The hallways were a little dark but you could hear the sound of children everywhere. I had arrived a few minutes before final bell, and the excitement to leave class was high.

As the children were organizing themselves into groups (those who were being picked up, those who were walking, and those who were staying for after school activities) a few children were already lining up outside the library door waiting for the club to start. Shortly after, the Loyola volunteers arrived and the club was ready to begin.

The library at St. Mary's is an ideal library for young children. Instead of having daunting stacks of books, the outside walls are lined with bookshelves and filled with books. This left the whole middle of the room for learning and fun.

The low attendance, only four St. Mary's students present, is attributed that to the fact that the club hasn't met in several weeks due to half days and no school according to the teacher overlooking the club, Mrs. Burks. The bookworm club meets every Tuesday from 3-4pm in the library and is run completely by Loyola students.

Students are currently reading books from author, Amelia Bedelia, whose books feature a lady who confuses word meanings and takes everything very literally. The bookworms found the

lady's adventures hysterical. The reading never got boring either. Everyone who sits in the circle takes a turn to read some of the book.

It was not even the Loyola volunteers who came up with this idea. As the bookworms were walking in they kept begging to read the books themselves. Kevin Jones, one of the volunteers says, "The kids really want to learn and show off their ability to read out loud." The children want to be there and are excited to learn new things.