

ST. GEORGE'S

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

Summer, 2017

Dear Rising Second Graders and Parents,

Soon your child will be enjoying their second grade experience. During the summer we promote a healthy balance for our students, with the main objective of this time being to rest, rejuvenate and spend time with family and friends.

While we advocate a robust respect for time and balance, educational research indicates that the equivalent of at least one month of learning loss can take place during the summer months (Cooper et al, 2003). To protect your child's academic growth, you will find outlined below the required practice for some of the important academic skills that were learned this year. We recommend that you create a routine encompassing these activities, so that the practice is well paced and meaningful. By doing so, you can further ensure that your child is confident and prepared as he/she enters the next school year in August.

Reading

Required

Students are required to read a minimum of 5 books throughout the summer. These books should be at grade level or above. Please help your child keep a reading record to include the book's title, author, and date completed.

Recommended

Please visit the library portion of our website under recommended reading for additional websites with suggested book titles. Also visit www.amazon.com to read *School Library Journal* or *Booklist* reviews on any of the books to aid in your selection process.

Book Adventure is a helpful online resource for students to continue practicing the important skill of reading comprehension. Similar to our Accelerated Reader® program, students can search for interesting summer reading books, and take practice quizzes. Log onto www.bookadventure.com for more information.

Writing

Required

Students are required to write four question sentences about what they most want to know about second grade. Each sentence should include a minimum of six words. Please remind your child to use capitals at the beginning and question marks at the end of each sentence. If your child has trouble with a word, have him/her sound it out. It is acceptable if the spelling is not exact.

Recommended

Keep a journal of how you have spent your summer days.

Math

Required

When school starts in the fall, second grade students will have an addition and subtraction fact timed test each week. Students will have 20 facts to answer in 60 seconds. According to NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics), "Automatic recall of math facts is essential for students to advance and master higher mathematical reasoning."

Students will use IXL to practice their math facts over the summer. Using their customized username and password to access IXL, an online math practice program, students are required to practice addition and subtraction skill sets, along with four additional math skills (as outlined on the attached page). If you have questions or concerns about any aspect of the IXL online math practice requirement, please do not hesitate to contact me, Allison Betchick-Harber, Elementary Division Director, at 261-2300.

Recommended

Be sure to see the helpful tips and website links in the math review packet for extra information on how to keep the fun of math alive over the summer. Having fun with IXL? Feel free to continue practicing any first grade skill listed on the site.

Enclosed is helpful information providing specific details of the requirements listed above. Summer practice will be due to the student's second grade teacher on **Friday, August 18, 2017**.

Please know that St. George's is proud to be fostering a community of lifelong learners who continue to read and educate themselves beyond the school day. You are a key part of that community and on behalf of the first and second grade teachers, and Mrs. Winstead, we thank you for joining us as we work together to support our students.

Sincerely,



Allison Betchick-Harber
Elementary Division Director – St. George's Independent School

Summer Learning Loss: The Problem and Some Solutions, Cooper, Harris (May 2003), from The Clearinghouse on Early Education and Parenting (CEEP)

Super Summer Math 2017

Recommended Skills to Practice

To compliment the required IXL practice skills, first and second grade teachers also **recommend** the following skills for additional practice:

First Grade Skills

Addition & Subtraction

J6 Addition and subtraction word problems

Money

Q7 Money word problems

Q8 Purchase: Do you have enough money?

Fractions

X5 Simple Fractions: Parts of a group

Second Grade Skill

Time

Q5 Read Clocks and Write Times

Helpful Tips and Website Links for Math Review

Addition/Subtraction Practice

- Use or make your own set of flashcards to twelve
- Utilize a small dry erase board with dry erase marker to practice facts
- Frequent oral drills during car rides
- Maintain a math journal where your child can write the facts

<http://aplusmath.com/cgi-bin/games/addpicture>

<http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcards.html>

Making Change

<http://www.funbrain.com/cashreg/index.html>

Telling Time

http://www.abcya.com/telling_time.htm

<http://www.primarygames.com/time/start.htm>

All Concepts

http://www.abcya.com/first_grade_computers.htm

Rising 2nd Grade

Super Summer Math 2017

Math practice has never been easier or more engaging! We are pleased to offer automated practice through a partnership with IXL.com.



Logging On

Students have received their own customized username and password to access IXL. Simply go to www.ixl.com/signin/sgis, have your child enter their username and password, and start the fun.

Required Skills to Practice

Practice and earn a minimum SmartScore of 80 on the following **1st grade** skills between Saturday, May 27 and Friday, August 18, 2017. **Please be aware that IXL is continuously updating skills which may result in a change of “coding”;** therefore, students should refer to the title of the skill.

Fact Practice – Addition & Subtraction	Other Required Skills
<u>1. Addition Skillbuilders</u> C.1 through C.10	<u>3. Addition & Subtraction</u> J7 Addition and subtraction sentences: true or false?
<u>2. Subtraction Skillbuilders</u> E.1 through E.10	<u>4. Money</u> Q5 Equivalent Coins
	<u>5. Counting and Number Patterns</u> A20 Sequences: count up and down by 1, 2, 3, 5, 10
	<u>6. Time</u> U6 Times of everyday events

Having fun and want to keep going? Earn an 80 SmartScore on five additional 1st grade skills and earn a homework pass. Qualify for the 2017 Tough Enough soccer shoot out by earning an 80 SmartScore on the most 1st grade skills!