

ST. GEORGE'S

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

Summer, 2017

Dear Rising Fourth Graders and Parents,

Soon your child will be enjoying their fourth 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 complete their **Summer Reading Book Club Selection** (see the attached choices), a **nonfiction** book, and one additional book written in a genre of their choice. All selected books must be at the student's grade level or above.

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.

Math

Required

Using their customized username and password to access IXL, an online math practice program, students are required to practice 10 third grade 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

Shortly after the start of the fourth grade year, students will work toward mastering 100 multiplication problems in 3 minutes. To build upon their mastery from the third grade, we recommend students frequently practice the **third grade** IXL multiplication skill builder sets (F.1 – F.13) throughout the summer months.

Having fun? Feel free to continue practicing any third grade skill listed in IXL!

Enclosed is helpful information providing specific details of the reading, writing, and math requirements listed above. Summer practice will be due to the student's fourth 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 fourth grade teachers, and our librarian 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)

Rising 4th 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 90 on the following **3rd grade** skills between Saturday, May 27 and Friday, August 18, 2017. If you have already completed a skill prior to May 27, you must complete it again over the summer months. 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.**

Fractions

Z4 Fractions of a number: unit word problems

Compare Fractions

Y12 Order Fractions

Subtraction

D7 Subtract numbers with four or more digits

Mixed Operations

M2 Complete the addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division sentence

M7 Add, subtract, multiply, and divide

M9 Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division word problems

M11 Multi-step word problems

M12 Missing Operators

Estimation and Rounding

P2 Rounding

Time

T6 Elapsed Time II

Having fun and want to keep going? Earn a 90 SmartScore on five additional 3rd grade skills and earn a homework pass. Qualify for the 2017 Tough Enough soccer shoot out by earning a 90 SmartScore on the most 3rd grade skills!