

ST. GEORGE'S

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

Summer, 2017

Dear Rising Fifth Graders and Parents,

Soon your child will be enjoying their fifth 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 fourth 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

At the close of the fourth grade year, students are expected to have mastered automatic recall of all math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). To aid in keeping math facts fresh for use with higher order mathematical concepts in the fifth grade, we recommend frequent practice using the following skill builder sets in IXL: Addition (First Grade C.1-C.10), Subtraction (First Grade G1-G10), Multiplication (Third Grade F.1–F.13), Division (Third Grade J1-J12).

Having fun? Feel free to continue practicing any fourth 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 fifth 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 fifth 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 5th 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 **4th 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.**

Multiplication

D22 Multiply a 2-digit number by a larger number

D26 Multiply 3 numbers up to 2 digits each

Division

E8 Divide larger numbers, 1-digit divisors

E5 Divide by 2-digit numbers in word problems

Fractions

P10 Compare Fractions w/ like numerators or denominators using models

R2 Add fractions with unlike denominators

R4 Subtract fractions with unlike denominators

Decimals

T13 Round Decimals

Money

M5 Add, subtract, multiply, and divide money amounts

Time

08 Transportation Schedules

Having fun and want to keep going? Earn a SmartScore on five additional 4th grade skills and earn a homework pass. Qualify for the 2017 Tough Enough soccer shoot out by earning a 90 SmartScore on the most 4th grade skills.