



Dear Parents,

Summer break is officially in full swing! I hope you and your children are getting some extra rest and taking things a bit slower than the pace at which we move during the school year.

While we certainly want the children to rest and have lots of FUN, we also want them to keep their academic skills sharp this summer. We have strived to instill a love of learning in all of the students and it is our hope that you will help them continue this work over the summer so as not to lose valuable skills they have acquired this year.

We have compiled a list of activities for each grade level that we think are fun ways to keep skills fresh. Each grade level has a required reading activity; we do not have any required math activities, but we have provided a number of suggestions for ways to practice skills. Where appropriate, we have also suggested workbooks, websites, or apps that you can use with your children.

In general, because they have worked so hard during the school year, we suggest that you provide your children with opportunities to explore books in a fun and relaxed manner. Summer is a great time to develop that love of reading; students have time to find books that really interest them, and they can spend quality time reading with you in a comfortable environment. As you read together, engage your children in casual conversations about the books, asking questions such as, “Why do you think...?”, “What do you think will happen next?”, “How do you think \_\_\_\_ is feeling about...?”, etc.

We also highly recommend taking time this summer to play board games, giving children the opportunity to take turns, learn strategy, and win and lose graciously; Bake and cook together, having children follow a recipe closely; Take your child grocery shopping with you and give him/her a budget and a list of items to buy within that budget; Start collecting loose change today. On the last day of summer, estimate how much change you’ve collected, then count it up and buy something special; Have your child try a new product or activity and write about it. Create a commercial to sell it to others.

There are unlimited ways to keep the learning going in fun and exciting ways, and we are looking forward to hearing about the approach you take this summer. We hope you have a fantastic summer, full of family, friends and adventures!

Warmly,

Raini Jewell