

Dear Middle School Students and Parents/Guardians,

As the school year comes to a close, we want to emphasize the importance of maintaining strong academic habits over the summer, particularly in the areas of reading, critical thinking, and math. Research shows that students can lose more than two months of academic progress during the summer if they don't remain engaged in meaningful learning activities.

To help prevent this "summer slide," we encourage families to make reading a regular part of their summer routine. Visiting the library, listening to audiobooks during car rides, and discussing books as a family are excellent ways to support comprehension and critical thinking skills.

Summer Reading Requirements

Students are **required to read two books** over the summer:

1. **One book of choice** from the attached *Summer Literature/Language Arts Reading List*
2. **One required Social Studies book** is assigned to all students (please check the incoming grade for your child to determine which book).

For the *Literature/Language Arts* book:

Students should take notes on the following elements: Characters, Setting, Plot, Conflict, Resolution.

They should also select two significant quotations from the text and explain their importance. These notes must be typed, printed, and brought to school by the second day of the new school year. Students will use their notes to write an in-class essay in their Literature class.

For the *Social Studies* book:

Students will complete a multiple-choice assessment at the beginning of the school year. The test will focus on the story, characters, setting, and historical elements of the novel. Students will also participate in classroom discussions to explore the book's historical context and themes.

Summer Math Practice

Keeping math skills sharp is essential for success in the upcoming school year. Math is a spiraled subject, meaning that concepts build upon one another over time. Regular and consistent practice helps reinforce learning and prevent skill gaps. To support this, students are expected to complete the Summer Math Packet, which includes: An explanation page to help guide understanding, space to show all work, and an answer key for self-checking accuracy. We encourage students to pace themselves and complete the packet gradually throughout the summer, rather than all at once, to maintain consistent engagement with math. Please note, there is an Advanced Math packet for incoming Grade 7 and 8 students who are currently enrolled in advanced Math, but not for incoming Grade 6. This packet is due the first week back.

Summer Religion

There is also an optional Religion Bingo that students can complete for bonus points! We encourage you to do as many of the activities as possible so you can stay close to the Lord this summer!

Thank you for supporting your child's continued learning over the summer. We wish you a restful, enriching, and enjoyable break!

Warm regards,

The Middle School Team