Summer Academic Activities

Entering First Grade

June 2017

Dear Parents of Kindergarten Students,

 We are looking forward to meeting you and working with you and your children next year. Attached to this letter you will find some practice sheets, suggested activities, and three assignments that we would like all students to complete over the summer.

 Required Assignments

 Attached to the summer packet is three copies of a story map pattern. Please have your child read to you or you read to your child the three books. After the completion of these three books please have your child fill out the story map. Only one sentence is needed for the plot. **Please have your child bring the completed story maps to school on the first day of school.**

The second assignment is for your child to write weekly in a **Summertime Journal.** We would like the children to practice their writing over the summer. They can write about anything they want and draw a picture to go along with each entry. Please do not worry about how they spell their words in their writing. We are most interested in receiving authentic writing samples. Capital letters and periods for end marks are needed. **Please have your child bring the Summertime Journal to school on the first day of first grade.**

 The third assignment is to purchase a math workbook. We highly recommend **Simple Solutions,** however, any workbook that is leveled for first grade will be fine.

 Suggested Reading and Math Activities

 We encourage that all children practice their reading during the summer. Reading books to your child is as important as your child reading books to you. Choosing a chapter book that is of interest to you and your child and setting time aside each day to read the story is a fabulous way to model good reading. Taking trips to the library and checking out books is also a great way to spark your child’s interest in reading. One way to assess if a book is just right for your child to read is to have them read one page of the book. If they do not know 5 or more words on a page then the book is too difficult and they should try another. Practicing reading with familiar texts is also a great way to increase fluency. Have fun and make reading a part of each day!

 Math can be practiced anytime and anywhere. Have them practice joining two groups together to make a new group and practice early addition. Encourage them to tell math stories using words like greater and less than. Play games with dice and dominoes. Have the children make up addition sentences using dots on the dominoes and dice. Use coins to count by 1’s, 5’s and 10’s. Begin to work with your child on telling time to the hour using analog and digital clocks. Practice writing numbers up to twelve. Math addition and subtraction flash cards are wonderful to use too. Have fun!

 We also would like to encourage children this summer to learn how to tie their shoes. We hope that you and your children have a very enjoyable summer. Rest, relax, and allow time for plenty of play!!