



The Dominican

COMMUNITY of SCHOOLS

June 2019

Dear SAA-SDS Parents and Students,

During the summer we promote a healthy balance for our students between practicing their learned skills from the previous grade level in reading, writing, and math and being able to rest, rejuvenate, and spend time with family and friends. 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). Our summer enrichment is intended to provide opportunities for our students to maintain and strengthen academic skills. Creating a routine for summer enrichment can provide well paced and meaningful practice.

Summer Math

This year we have redesigned the summer math enrichment to include a variety of activities. It is our hope that this new format will foster curiosity and excitement about math and will encourage students to look for math in the real world.

Please guide your child in selecting his or her activities. We encourage students to set goals and to choose activities that are challenging. Incentives will be offered for students who exceed the minimum number of required points for their grade level. Please note that students who need access to a device to complete summer math activities may take advantage of the tech time provided in the Cybrary on the following Tuesdays from 9:00-11:00: June 4, 18, 25 and July 9, 16, 23. *Students must be accompanied by an adult and must know their individual login information.*

Also, please refer to the Khan Academy letter that was shared during the last weeks of school, as Khan Academy allows personalized, adaptive learning that can reinforce, enrich, and challenge.

Please help your child track his or her earned points by recording information on the provided calendar to ensure that he or she meets the minimum grade level requirement. Please share photos of our Suns and Stars in action with the Summer Math Challenge! Share on Instagram via **#saasdsSMC** and **#welovesaasds**.

Required Points

Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points
Rising K	30	Rising 3rd	60	Rising 6th	90
Rising 1st	40	Rising 4th	70	Rising 7th	100
Rising 2nd	50	Rising 5th	80	Rising 8th	110

When we return to school in August, students will be required to return the **June and July calendar (totaled and signed by a parent)**. We appreciate your partnership in this new approach and encourage parent involvement/participation in the Summer Math Challenge!

Summer Reading

Research shows that when students read during the summer they retain more knowledge from the previous school year. At SAA-SDS, we believe that consistently exposing children to books of interest fosters excitement and a love of reading which leads to the development of lifelong readers. Our summer requirements vary among the grade levels. All rising K-8 students should read the *Everybody Reads* selection(s) for their grade level. Rising K-4 students are encouraged to participate in the summer reading bingo challenge. You will also find book recommendations and time spent reading recommendations on our summer enrichment website. The library offers the opportunity for students in grades 1-6 to take AR tests on their summer reading selections during Testing Tuesdays held in June and July. Testing will be available from 9-11am on the following dates: June 4, 18, 25 and July 9, 16, and 23. *Students must be accompanied by an adult and must know their individual login information.* Please help your child use the provided summer reading logs (1-8) and bingo card (K-4). **Students should return signed reading logs/bingo cards to classroom teachers the first week of school.** Students in grades K-4 who return a fully completed bingo card will be invited to an ice cream party at the beginning of the school year.

Summer Writing

This year, our students focused on the function and practical application of grammar and vocabulary as they relate to the various genres of writing. Improving writing skills requires that students have ample opportunities to write; therefore, we have provided some recommendations for summer writing.

Students in grades K-6 should submit their completed summer enrichment work to their homeroom teacher on the first day of school. Students in grades 7 & 8 should submit completed summer work to their Math and English teachers on the first full day of class.

In addition to our summer enrichment program, we offer a wide variety of learning experiences through our summer camps. Please refer to www.saa-sds.org for further information. St. Agnes Academy-St. Dominic School is proud to nurture a community of dedicated learners who continue to educate themselves beyond the school day. On behalf of our faculty and staff we thank you for joining us as we work together to support our students.

Sincerely,



Kathy Boccia, SAA Dean



Chris Burke, SDS Dean

Citation: *Summer Learning Loss: The Problem and Some Solutions*, Cooper, Harris (May 2003), from The Clearinghouse on Early Education and Parenting (CEEP)