

June 2019

My Dear Parents,

The summer months are a time to rest, relax, and renew ourselves. They are a time to enjoy fresh air and sunshine; to be outdoors and play. They are also a wonderful time to expose our students to enrichment learning that will help them report to school in September prepared for the venture ahead of them. With that purpose in mind, each child who is entering grades Kindergarten through Fifth will be participating in the *Summer Bridge Activities* program this summer.

What does this program entail?

1. Every child will be receiving a *Summer Bridge Activities* workbook.
2. The book is divided into three sections. Sections one and two generally speaking are review and reinforcement exercises while section three is enrichment.
3. During the month of June section one should be completed. There are 20 Days of exercises. During the month of July section two should be completed. There are 20 Days of exercises. During the month of August section three should be completed. There are 20 Days of exercises. Even though this section is mostly enrichment, and therefore more challenging, it would be beneficial to attempt this section, doing the best we can.
4. The Science Experiments, Social Studies Activities, and Outdoor Extension Activity pages and the pages with crafty projects are extra, but they provide you with some very interesting ideas and fun activities.

Daily Reading

1. In addition to doing each daily exercise, children need to set aside time for daily reading.
2. On page 'ix' in each workbook is a list of age appropriate books that your child can borrow from the local public library and read.
3. We recommend that parents read to the children who have completed Pre-K, Kindergarten or 1st grade this year, 5 to 10 minutes each day and then ask them questions about the story to reinforce comprehension.
4. Suggested daily reading times for children per grade level:

Kindergarten	10 minutes each day if the child is reading independently
Grades 1 & 2	10 to 20 minutes each day
Grades 2 & 3	20 to 30 minutes each day
Grades 3 & 4	30 to 45 minutes each day

This reading can be divided into shorter reading sessions.

What Should Parents Do?

1. Education is the primary responsibility of the parent. Here at SMMS we endeavor to assist our parents in this very noble task of educating their children.
2. Parents need to familiarize themselves with the *Summer Bridge Activities* workbook that is being sent home.
3. Parents should speak with their child regarding the importance of carefully working on the exercises in this workbook each day.
4. Parents need to set aside an appropriate amount of time each day for their child to complete the daily exercises and do the daily reading.
5. Parents should correct their child's work. There are *Answer Pages* beginning on page 145 in each workbook (for those entering grades 1-5). Perhaps parents will want to remove these pages and set them aside for their use only.
6. Parents need to offer lots of positive praise and approval of their child's work. Learning should be a fun experience for all. The books have various colored star stickers in the back for you to use after daily exercises are completed.
7. Parents will need to help their children with the enrichment exercises.

Please note that these books will be collected by your child's new teacher when we begin school in September. All daily exercises must be completed and the reading log with the names of the books your child read over the summer must also be submitted at the beginning of school.

Successful completion of this workbook will have your child well prepared for the beginning of the new school year in September!

The website www.summerlearningactivities.com/sba contains additional grade appropriate activities for review, reinforcement and enrichment.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the Main Office.

All of us at SMMS wish you and your families a happy and healthy summer. May Mary, our Mother, watch over us and guide us as we all continue to grow intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. God bless you all!

God bless,

Mr. John Holian
Headmaster