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Mrs. Melissa Green | Principal • Mrs. Rachel Schroeder | Assistant Principal

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Dear SJGS Families,

As mothers of school-aged children, we know very well how precious summertime is! It is a time to play, explore, and visit with beloved friends and family; a time to enjoy big things like vacations and reunions, as well as little things like sleeping in or going out for ice cream.

As educators, we also know that summer weeks are important for maintaining all of the good things that your children have learned in the past academic year, especially in the areas of mathematics and literacy. Your child's future teachers have designed summer assignments and activities that they feel will best provide that skills maintenance and prevent the "summer slide." Please find these assignments attached.

While it's perfectly okay to take a break from school work for a time, we encourage you to review your child's summer assignments now so that you can ask any clarifying questions you may have before teachers take their vacations, too.

Lastly, we encourage all of our St. Joe Eagles to be sure to devote time this summer to maintaining their prayer lives and practicing their virtues. Here are some ideas:

- Pick a Virtues in Practice home project that you really enjoyed from this year and re-commit to it!
- Pick a Virtues in Practice home project that you tried but didn't quite succeed with and try again!
- Choose a day each week to spend 15 minutes at the Grotto at Notre Dame.
- Download the "Saints Stories for Kids" podcast and listen to an episode each week.
- Download the "3-Minute Retreat" app from Loyola Press and do a retreat every day.
- Build your own holy space or grotto in a favorite place in your backyard and spend time in prayer there each week.

It has been a blessing for all of us on our faculty to partner with you over the past year in forming the hearts and minds of your children! We wish you a safe, joyful, and restful summer!

Your Partners in Catholic Education,

Mrs. Green & Mrs. Schroeder



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Incoming 4th Grade Math Summer Work 2023

Happy Summer! In the midst of your summer outdoor activities, family time, and seasonal celebrations, I hope you will spend a bit of time enjoying math!

Practice your math facts – that’s the most important skill you can practice this summer! You can use cards, dice, technology, or any other way to learn them and know them well. I promise to plan for a facts quiz on our first day – and I always keep my promises! Study those facts as often as possible (with the goal of having them memorized and quickly recalled) upon your return.

Practice math skills on IXL. All math summer work will be IXL. Students have been working on the IXL app all year in their prospective grades. You can log in using the attached login and password. Recommended skills are starred. You may have already worked on some of these in 3rd grade but please complete again. I would like you to get to at least 85% understanding per skill. If possible, work for 20 minutes a few times a week on 3rd grade skills.

Recognize and practice math in your everyday activities:

Games To Play: (You will need a deck of cards, with all the face cards removed. Treat the ace as the number 1.)

1. **Multiplication War** - Deal out all the cards equally between 2 or 3 players. Each player turns over 2 cards and multiplies the numbers together. The person with the higher product wins the pile of cards. If you have the same product, then repeat the procedure. Winner takes all the cards.
2. **Close to 1000** - Deal 8 cards to each player. Use any 6 of your cards to make two 3-digit numbers. Try to get a sum that is close to or equal to 1000. Write these 2 numbers in your journal. Your score is the difference between your number and 1000.

Example: Your eight cards are **1, 5, 4, 3, 1, 8, 3, 8**

You can combine $148 + 853 = 1001$. Your score is 1 since the difference between 1001 and 1000 is 1. Discard the 6 used cards and pick 6 new cards. Whoever has the lowest total score after 5 rounds wins the game.

Other games to play: Monopoly, Othello, Battleship, Connect Four, Mastermind, Mancala, Legos, K’Nex, Simon, Yahtzee

Thank you for your support and please let me know if there are any questions. Have a great summer!

Mrs. Badics

Dear Parents of Incoming Fourth Graders,

Summer is upon us, and along with looking forward to playing in the sun and having fun, I hope your child picks up a great book or two. He/she should spend some time each day reading something *enjoyable*. Students need to record the title of the books they read this summer on the attached Reading Record. This will be due on the first day of school.

Also, I'm asking you to adopt a pet this summer. It's small and friendly and you won't have to do anything to take care of it. (You've heard that one before?) Please help your fourth grader adopt a pet rock to stay with your family over summer break. This pet rock will be looking for some fun and adventure. Snap some pictures of the pet rock with your child throughout the summer and have him/her write about what happened in the journal provided. Your child needs to bring the journal to school when he/she comes back in the fall.

Regardless of homeroom, next year I will be your child's fourth grade language arts teacher. I am looking forward to the opportunity to read and write with your child. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Mark

Students needs to complete this list before returning to school:

- Read *a lot!*
- Keep track of all the books read over the summer
- Take pictures with the pet rock and write about what they did together

Students need to bring with them on the first day of school:

- The Reading Record of all books read over the summer
- The pet rock and summer journal

This list is a sampling of the quality literature available for your child. I encourage parents to review the selections to ensure readability and suitability.

Fiction: Classic and Contemporary

The Best Bad Thing – Uchida, Yoshiko
Bill and Pete Go Down the Nile – de Paola, Tomie
A Boy of Old Prague – Ish-Kishor, Shulamith
Cam Jansen (series) – Adler, David
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – Dahl, Roald
Charlotte's Web – White, E.B.
Class Clown – Hurwitz, Johanna
Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective – Sobel, Donald
Felita – Mohr, Nicholessa
Freckle Juice – Blume, Judy
Frindle – Clements, Andrew
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler – Konigsburg, E.L.
The Hundred Dresses – Estes, Eleanor
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson – Lord, Bette Bao
Misty of Chincoteague – Henry, Marguerite
Molly's Pilgrim – Cohen, Barbara
The Pinballs – Byars, Betsy
Pippi Longstocking – Lindgren, Astrid
Poppy – Avi
The Pushcart War – Merrill, Jean
Ramona (series) – Cleary, Beverly
Shades of Gray – Reeder, Carolyn
Shiloh (trilogy) – Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Souder – Armstrong, William
Stone Fox – Gardiner, John Reynolds
The Stories Julian Tells – Cameron, Anne
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing – Blume, Judy
Trumpet of the Swan – White, E.B.
Velveteen Rabbit – Williams, Margery
Wayside School (series) – Sachar, Louis
Where the Red Fern Grows – Rawls, Wilson

Historical Fiction

Caddie Woodlawn – Brink, Carol R.
The Courage of Sarah Noble – Dalglish, Alice
Journey to Topaz – Uchida, Yoshiko
Lily's Crossing – Giff, Patricia Reilly
Little House in the Big Woods (series) – Wilder, Laura Ingalls
Morning Girl – Dorris, Michael
Number the Stars – Lowry, Lois
Prairie Songs – Conrad, Pam
Sarah, Plain and Tall – MacLachlan, Patricia
The Sign of the Beaver – Speare, Elizabeth George

Science Fiction/Fantasy

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea – Verne, Jules
Alice in Wonderland – Carroll, Lewis
The Court of the Stone Children – Cameron, Eleanor
The Cricket in Times Square – Seldon, George
The Ear, the Eye and the Arm – Farmer, Nancy
Indian in the Cupboard – Banks, Lynne Reid
James and the Giant Peach – Dahl, Roald
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh – O'Brien, Robert C.
The Secret Garden – Burnett, Frances
This Place Has No Atmosphere – Danziger, Paula
The Wind in the Willows – Grahame, Kenneth
Wizard of Oz – Baum, L. Frank
A Wrinkle in Time – L' Engle, Madeleine

Folklore/Fairy Tales/Mythology

The Barefoot Book of Trickster Tales – Walker, Richard

The Crane Wife – Yagawa, Sumiko and Odds Bodkin

D'Aulaires Book of Greek Myths – D'Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar

The Days When the Animals Talked – Faulkner, William

The First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story – Bruchac, Joseph

How the Leopard Got His Spots – Kipling, Rudyard

The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood – Pyle, Howard

Of Swords and Sorcerers – Hodges, Margaret

The Olympians: Great Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Greece – Fisher, Leonard Everett

Saint George and the Dragon – Hodges, Margaret

Tales of Uncle Remus – Lester, Julian

Why Mosquitos Buzz in People's Ears – Aardema, Verna

Poetry

Beat the Story-Drum, Pum-Pum – Bryan, Ashley

From Sea to Shining Sea: A Treasury of American Folklore and Folk Songs – Cohn, Amy

Hand in Hand: An American History Through Poetry – Hopkins, Lee Bennett

Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices – Fleischman, Paul

Nathaniel Talking – Greenfield, Eloise

The New Kid on the Block – Prelutsky, Jack

The Random House Book of Poetry for Children – Prelutsky, Jack (ed.)

Sing a Song of Popcorn – De Regniers, Beatrice Schenk

Snow Toward Evening: A Year in a River Valley – Frank, Josette

Nonfiction: Science, Social Studies, and Mathematics

African Beginnings – Haskins, James

Animal Defenses: How Animals Protect Themselves – Kaner, Etta

Bizarre Birds – Wechsler, Doug

Black Whiteness: Admiral Byrd Alone in the Antarctic – Burleigh, Robert

Buddy: The First Seeing Eye Dog – Moore, Eva Castle – Macaulay, David

Caves and Caverns – Gibbons, Gail

Come Back, Salmon – Cone, Molly

Counting on Frank: Level 4 – Clement, Rod

Dive! My Adventures in the Deep Frontier – Earle, Sylvia

DK Guide to Space: A Photographic Journey

Through the Universe – Bond, Peter

Dolphin Man: Exploring the World of Dolphins – Pringle, Laurence

Exploding Ants: Facts About How Animals Adapt – Settel, Joanne

An Extraordinary Life: Story of a Monarch Butterfly – Pringle, Laurence

Fire! Fire! – Gibbons, Gail

How Much Is a Million? – Schwartz, David

The Magic School Bus (series) – Cole, Joanna

Mapping the World – Johnson, Sylvia

One World, Many Religions – Osborne, Mary Pope

The People Shall Continue – Ortiz, Simon

Pyramid – Macaulay, David

Reaching for Dreams: A Ballet from Rehearsal to Opening Night – Kuklin, Susan

Shh! We're Writing the Constitution – Fritz, Jean
Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest –
Jenkins, Steve

Biography/Autobiography

The First Woman Doctor – Baker, Rachel
Cleopatra – Stanley, Diane
Where Do You Think You're Going, Christopher Columbus? – Fritz, Jean

Frederick Douglass: The Black Lion – McKissack, Patricia

Albert Einstein: Young Thinker – Hammontree, Marie

Queen Eleanor: Independent Spirit of the Medieval World – Brooks, Polly Schoer

The Librarian Who Measured the Earth: Eratosthenes – Lasky, Kathryn

Benjamin Franklin – D'Aulaire, Ingri
Ben and Me – Lawson, Robert
Prince Henry the Navigator – Fisher, Leonard Everett

The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam – Huynh, Qhang Nhuong

Helen Keller: Courage in the Dark – Hurwitz, Johanna

Lives of the Presidents – Krull, Kathleen
Abe Lincoln's Hat – Brenner, Martha
Charles Lindbergh: A Human Hero – Giblin, James
Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun – Blumberg, Rhoda

The Story of Sacajewea, Guide to Lewis and Clark – Rowland, Della

The Secret Soldier: The Story of Deborah Sampson – McGovern, Ann

Clara Schumann: Piano Virtuoso – Reich, Susanna
Inspirations: Stories About Women Artists – Sills, Leslie

Squanto: Friend of the Pilgrims – Bulla, Clyde Robert

On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed into Town – Lobel, Arnold

Walking the Road to Freedom: Sojourner Truth – Ferris, Jeri

Frank Lloyd Wright for Kids: His Life and Ideas – Thorne-Thomsen, Kathleen

The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane – Freedman, Russell

Babe Didrikson Zaharias: The Making of a Champion – Freedman, Russell

**Don't forget that reading
magazines/periodicals,
reference materials, and
websites is reading too!**

Dear Soon-to-be Fourth Grader,

Over the summer, I know you're going to have a lot of fun. What could make your summer even more enjoyable? Sharing it with a new friend! That is why I want you to adopt a pet, a pet rock that is.

Pet rocks are the perfect pets! They are very easy to care for, so I am sure your parents won't object. There is no special diet. (No diet at all, actually.) There is no house training needed. Pet rocks will not whine if you forget to let them outside or play with them. Plus, your pet rock's hobbies are reading and collecting things from travels, so he/she is the perfect summer buddy.

All you have to do is name your pet rock and take your new pet along on your summer adventures. Decorating your pet is optional, but that may help you identify your pet if you take it to the beach or on a hike. Snap some pictures of the two of you out and about, and write in your journal about what you and your pet rock did together. Bring this journal on the first day of school to share your rock's adventures with the rest of your class. Please make sure you bring your rock buddy too! I'm looking forward to meeting the two of you in August.

Have a fantastic summer,

Mrs. Mark

My Summer with _____

Your rock's name

By _____

Your name

