

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that another school year is ending. The children have grown so much over the year and we've enjoyed getting to know them and you better.

Thank you for all of your support! We couldn't have accomplished what we have this year without it. This year we learned about our heritage, the cultures of Mexico and Canada, the regions of the United States, and the Indigenous people that lived here. We went from creating homes to survive in Extreme Weather to learning about Animals through Time. The children have created projects, slide shows, and written reports. In ELA, they have written incredible stories and delved into some wonderful books. The year has flown by!

As you look forward to hopefully a sunny summer vacation it would be a good idea to give your children a head start next year by continuing to practice their math, writing, and reading skills. We have created a **google classroom (Summer Fun for Future Fourth Graders)** with lots of activities to help combat the "summer slide". Below are some more ideas.

Math

1. **A MUST:** The ALEKS math program is available to you all summer long so be sure to take full advantage of it. We want every child to get to 100% on their ALEK journey.
2. A math workbook that we have used with our own children is called "Summer Bridge Activities". This workbook also has reading, writing, math, and language skills that will help prepare your child for next year. It can be found on Amazon and at Barnes n Noble.
3. Get to work in the kitchen making some favorite recipes or bread. Let kids figure out measurements, the sequence of steps, elapsed time, serving sizes, etc.
4. Use every opportunity to practice math facts – riding in the car, waiting in line, etc.
5. Use real-life situations to solve math problems - change at the grocery store, gas at the pump, estimating tax, exchanging currency, or figuring a tip.
6. Add and subtract license plate numbers while riding in the car.
7. Play games number games like Sudoku or apps on electronics

Word Work

1. Play word games like Scrabble, Boggle, and Quiddler,
2. Skim the newspaper and find a new word to learn each day.

Reading

Summer Reading List is on google classroom

1. **A MUST:** Read books from the summer reading list and take AR tests on those books. The books listed in bold on the Summer Reading List are ones from Mrs. Fuecht's list that every child **must have read two by next April**. Remember your child can read these books independently, with you, or listen to them.
2. Find out what's going on at your local library. Most libraries have summer reading programs with fun themes and incentives for the number of books read. I am sending home one I picked up from Barnes and Noble for the children to complete and take in.
3. Have them act out a part of the story they read or create a movie about their book.

Writing

1. Have your child keep a journal while traveling. Take a picture and then write about what happened that day.
2. Have your child decorate a writing journal. **Journal writing topics are given on google classroom** that they can then write about.
3. Write letters to relatives, Mrs. Sheehan, or Mrs. Smith to tell them about what you are doing and the adventures you are having. (It's fun to send and receive letters.)
4. Writing activities on google classroom.

Enjoy your summer,

Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith