

Summer Learning for Incoming 1st through 5th Graders

Dear NCA Families,

Summer is underway! For many of us it is a time to relax, spend time with friends and family, and to travel. NCA wants you to enjoy every moment of summer with your children. We also want to be sure that reading and math skills are maintained or continue to develop.

A University of Tennessee, Knoxville, research study shows that children who don't read over the summer lose at least two months of reading development. This is often referred to as 'the summer slide' or the 'summer learning loss.' On the other hand, students who do read over the summer may gain a month of proficiency in reading. Reading over the summer is not a suggestion to keep kids busy; it's a critical requirement to help students stay on track for their entire educational career and beyond.

This summer we would like for NCA students going into 1st through 5th grades to read books and other **reading materials they choose**. On our website, we have provided a recommended reading list as a guide to help you and your child in making book selections. The books on this list are not mandatory to read, just recommended. We want them to be **read to** or **read independently** for at least **15-20 minutes daily**. We recommend your child keeps a **reading journal or reading log** of the books read. A reading journal will also help your child continue to practice writing skills.

We would also suggest that you help your child to **practice math concepts and skills** that were introduced this year. Time spent on memorizing addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts is always time invested well. There are many avenues to practice math skills – be creative. Follow the link to a Scholastic webpage containing other websites for summer math practice:

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/online-summer-math-prgrams.html>

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in the education of your child(ren). We look forward to hearing all about your summer endeavors!

NCA Elementary Teachers