



June, 2019

Dear First Grade Parents,

To help your child adjust to the rigors of second grade please continue to encourage them to read and write daily over the summer. A huge request... absolutely! But none will assist your child more as they navigate through second grade.

Your son/daughter has worked hard this year, but, it will all slip away if you don't reinforce concepts over the summer break. Revisiting and practicing material that has already been introduced is the only way to ensure mastery and long-term retention. To assist you with this endeavor please remember to work on your Summer Bridge Activities book. Please return it to school by September 9th, 2019.

Attached you will find a Summer Reading Log. **Make reading and writing part of your daily routine.** As you spend time reading with your child their task is to write down the books that they have read. Simply record the title and author. This also is due in school by Sept. 9th.

Over the years, many parents have asked me how they could help their child be a better reader. There is no secret magic recipe. The old adage "practice makes perfect" is a big part of the solution. Some other hints to help them along; choose books that are slightly challenging (no more than 4 mistakes on a page), look for clues in pictures, skip words that are difficult and read the rest of the sentence for meaning, break up the words into chunks, and above all, praise and encourage their reading regardless of the level they are on. **This must be a daily effort for forward movement, improvement, and mastery in reading to occur.** Reading also improves the quality of the children's writing. They are exposed to vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and the rhythm of the English language. This immersion will assist them as they begin to write paragraphs in October.

I wish you all a safe, relaxing summer. As you know next year is a very important year in the spiritual development of your child. The Holy Father says, "*The first and most important place for passing on the faith is the home. It is in the home that we learn to believe, through the quiet daily example of parents who love our Lord and trust in his word.*" Please continue to take your child to mass every Sunday. Of all the gifts we pass on to our children, the gift of faith is crucial and life forming.

I wish both you and your child a happy and engaging second grade experience. As I will remain on site I will be available to mentor and assist your child's teacher anyway I can. Good luck in second grade!

Kindly turn this page over and you will find a supply list for September.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Annunziata

