May 19th, 2015

Dear Parents,

As many of you may already know, students experience learning losses when they don’t engage in educational activities during the summer. To combat this, the teachers have put together educational activities that the students can work on to prepare them for the coming grade.

Attached to this letter is a Summer Reading Log. We expect that the students should read at least 20 minutes a day and participate in at least one learning activity a day. We want the students to come back to school ready to start where they left off and not suffer from the ‘summer slide’ that can take place.

To incentivize the students to keep motivated over the summer, we will have a drawing in August when we come back to school for those students who turned in their Summer Reading Log. The requirements to get entered in the drawing are:

- Students must read 20 minutes a day at least 66 of the 83 days
- Students must complete one learning activity a day for at least 66 of the 83
- Students must have their reading log signed by a parent

On the Summer Reading Log, the date is listed in one column and the students write in how many minutes they read in the column to the immediate right of the date. They will list what learning activity that they participated in, in the column to the immediate right of where they list their minutes read.

The learning activities for students going into the next grade are:

1st Grade: Sight words, and Math Sight words
2nd Grade: Practice printing each letter of the alphabet correctly; memorize the phrases from the fluency lists, and addition and subtraction worksheets; addition flashcards first and once mastered subtraction flashcards
3rd Grade: Addition flashcards first and when mastered subtraction flashcards, and then multiplication flashcards
4th Grade: Fluency passages; multiplication flashcards
5th Grade: Give Me Liberty Award requirements; division worksheets; study vocabulary sheet; multiplication flashcards

The way to help students with the flashcards is to show the student the problem. The student should be able to say the fact immediately. If the student does say the problem immediately, put that flashcard in one pile. If the student hesitates for more than a second, or can’t come up with the answer, put that flashcard in a second pile. Once you cycle through the cards the first time, quiz the students on the second pile problems, repeating the same process as the first cycle (throwing in a few problems from the first pile now and then).

We appreciate your help in encouraging your student to engage in educational activities, quiz them on their flashcards, and monitoring their Summer Reading Log and verifying the accuracy of their log by signing it at the end of the summer.

Sincerely,

Hurricane Elementary Faculty
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Parent Signature _______________________________