

Dear Incoming Third Grade Families,

Welcome to our grade level! We look forward to serving the needs of your children when we return in August. In accordance with Traut standards, our teaching team expects all incoming third graders to work on skill maintenance over the ten weeks of summer break, in both reading and math. We certainly know families need some “down-time” and want to honor valuable time to build family relationships and learn experientially through participation in various summertime opportunities, while also ensuring third grade readiness.

We would like for your child to spend approximately 45 minutes, five days weekly, on both reading and math. We understand there are numerous ways to reinforce or improve skills and look forward to your child sharing how s/he engaged in such activities when we meet in mid-August. Below is our teacher recommendation for summer skill support.

- **IXL for Second Grade**

IXL is quite comprehensive, and teachers can view each student’s practice history easily. Not all skill strands have been assigned by teachers by the end of the year, so we would like students to complete all sections of Second Grade IXL Math. Depending upon proficiency, it may benefit some students to repeat some sections completed earlier in the year. Students also have the option of practicing any concept/skill at a different grade level. Each student’s IXL account will be active through the summer.

Additionally, all students should have basic addition and subtraction facts memorized. The goal is 20 problems in one minute – with accuracy. Knowing these basic facts is critical to success in multiplication – a major focus of math instruction in third grade!

- **Recreational Reading**

Research shows reading proficiency to be the number one marker of academic success. It directly affects all other subject areas. Third grade teachers expect all students to read daily for 25+ minutes. Hopefully, this will be recreational reading. Some students prefer fiction, some nonfiction. Regardless, we hope students will have numerous pleasure-reading experiences across genre. Third graders still need consistent read-aloud time with an adult. They also need to regularly experience read-aloud as a listener. Talk is critical to thinking, so we appreciate parents facilitating talk-time often, in conjunction with reading.

Additionally, students need to work on building reading endurance or stamina. Science and history content reading becomes much more pronounced in third grade and those students who can read for approximately 20 minutes without interruption will have an easier time transitioning.

Thanks, in advance, for your support of summer skill maintenance! We look forward to enjoying your children!

Mrs. Hollen

Mrs. Schwolert

Mrs. Wells