

St. Bernard's Catholic School
"Learning with God's Guidance"

May 30, 2008

Dear Prospective Seventh Graders:

A little preparation over the summer will prepare you for success in the Seventh grade. The Math program at this time is the Glencoe Pre-Algebra series. The following skills are needed prior to entering the Seventh grade.

Pre-Algebra and Arithmetic Skills required for Success in Seventh Grade

- Decimals, their operations and applications; Percents
- Simple Equations and Operations with Literal Symbols
- *Exponents
- Fractions, their operations and applications (including basic knowledge of ratios)
- *Basic Geometry (use of formulas for area and perimeter)
- Integers, their operations and applications (*Use and identification of integers on a number line)
- Basic Multiplication, Division, Addition and Subtraction
- Order of Operations
- *Recognition of coordinates and their position on the x-axis and y-axis.

Those items marked with an asterisk include topics which will be expanded upon during the term. Please spend time this summer memorizing your basic math facts. I challenge you to spend 15 minutes a day working on math problems without the assistance of a calculator. Two very helpful websites to use this summer for review are <http://www.mathpower.com/tutorial.htm> and <http://www.algebratutor.org>

Here are three projects to be completed during the summer. They will be due on the first day of school: Create a practical word problem using at least three of the skills listed on the attached page. Make the problem something relevant to you as a young person today. Create a visual representation of your problem. You may wish to create a poster, PowerPoint presentation, etc. Be creative! (No models, please)

Following proper procedures for Science and in life is an important skill to have. For the following activity I would like you to make something by **carefully following a recipe or procedure**. Some ideas would be cookies, a sandwich, or any other food items. If you don't feel confident in your cooking skills you can build a model plane, house or car. After you have completed the project please take a picture or plan on bringing the item in on the first day of school. Upon your return to school you will be presenting your activity to your fellow classmates so, please include a written summary of what you did and any challenges that you had in completing the activity.

Finally, please read The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster and compose a book report as prescribed by Miss Noe's format.

Ultimately, the summer is a time to relax and enjoy time with your family. Manage your time wisely to maximize enjoyment time. Please do not wait to the last minute to complete the project. Have fun! I look forward to seeing you next year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Franklin