

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

May 23, 2011

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 McDougall- Littel 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. Working diligently on the ALEKS system will go a long way towards making you successful.

There are three tasks to be accomplished this summer:

- Summer Math Program in ALEKS (Read personalized letter as attached carefully as you will be graded periodically throughout the summer)
- Create 5 probing scientific inquiry questions about Life Science in preparation for Science Fair. Your questions should be original thoughts, typed with a proper heading to be turned in on the first day of school.
- Having a strong foundation in the language arts will help you upon entering Seventh grade. Mrs. Mar is requiring that you read the Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster with an ATOS book level of 6.7 over the summer. While reading the book students will be required to complete chapter summaries using the reading log, which is attached. Upon returning to school the students will then take an AR test. The score students receive on this test will be entered as a grade for Literature. The book will also be discussed in Math and Religion curriculum.
 - You should also read another book of your choice at your STAR reading level to work towards completing your September AR book. Please check the student resources page on Saint Bernard's website to make sure we have an AR test for your book. The chapter summaries for this book will be due on August 30.

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
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