



St. Theresa School

SUMMER STUDY 2018

I hope you are ready to have some adventures, play outside, hang out with your friends, and, of course, keep your brain and body active this summer! When you come back you will be taller, tanner, and smarter because you used your time well this summer.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

Because this is what a scholar does; this is something successful people do. Your parents want you to be a successful person – that's why they pay such close attention to your character and your education. Scholars use their time well, are always growing in knowledge, are always trying to improve themselves and be better. These exercises will help you do that!

DO I HAVE TO DO IT?

Yep. There are many ways to relax in the summer time – playing baseball, going to the pool, playing at the park...but also reading, doing math, learning how to be more efficient on the computer. We want to give you every advantage for success in the 2018-19 school year – keeping your mind sharp over the summer is the first step!

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO KNOW IF I DID IT OR NOT?

Kahn Academy we track online as you do it. The typing is easy – we are going to expect 4th-8th graders to be able to type efficiently in class when we use technology and when we assign homework. When you come back to school in the fall, the teachers are going to have an assessment ready for you for reading. In addition to a test, project, or writing assignment for your August book, they are going to expect you to be able to intelligently share and discuss what you read in June and July. Besides, you have everything to gain by doing this work...a successful person knows this!

WHAT IF I'M GOING ON VACATION?

Family vacations and summer camps are just the best, aren't they? Be sure you help your parents so they can relax on vacation, too. Bring your book with you to read and pick up the math and technology when you get back home. There is plenty of time to do this work, so no worries!

WHAT IF A BOOK I WANT TO READ IS NOT ON THE LIST?

If you have a terrific book you would like to see added to the list, please contact me at mkeenley@sttheresaschool.com or stop in and maybe we'll go grab coffee and discuss it! In order to make the list, a book must be a classic in fact or in spirit; that is, it must tell a great story of life, truth, beauty, and leads the person to good in the end. A classic has a universal theme that applies to any human being and will be as good a read 100 years from now as it is today. A classic also has strong vocabulary, complex sentences and paragraphs, and excellent illustrations..

DID YOU KNOW MANY CLASSICS ARE ALSO MOVIES?

Yes, and we recommend them...AFTER you have read the book! Some of Miss Keenley's favorites: *True Grit*, *Pollyanna* (1960 with Haley Mills), *Scarlet Pimpernel* (1982 with Anthony Andrews), *Death Be Not Proud* (grab your Kleenex...), and *Journey to the Center of the Earth* (1959 version). Also try: *Anne of Green Gables* (with Sarah Polley, not the new one) and *The BFG* (2016)! Want a fun idea? Hang a sheet on the side of the garage and use a projector to show a movie outdoors! Show a great video from the reading list and have a great and have an outdoor movie party!! Need help with this? Please email Miss Keenley (mkeenley@sttheresaschool.com)

SUMMER STUDY 2018

The St. Theresa School Summer Study Program consists of four main learning dynamics:

Reading

Memorization and Recitation

Math

Keyboarding

Summer Reading (PS-8th Grades): The purpose of summer reading is to help keep your child's mind sharp both in reading skill and in content. The texts offered are classic in nature; they are complex, have strong vocabularies, and offer universal themes. And they are good reads!

As part of the summer reading experience, students are encouraged to enroll in the summer reading program at the Palatine Public Library ([click here for their website](#)). All the books on our list can be found at the Palatine Public Library and within the Northwest Suburban Library System. Except in grades 6-8 as noted, you should not have to purchase a book unless you want to.

Assignment: PS-3rd Grade read at least one (1) text a week each week of the summer
4th-8th Grade read at least one (1) text a month off the reading list in June and July plus the selected text in August (total of at least 3 books)

Summer Recitation (PS-8th Grades): Memorization is a lost art, and public speaking strikes terror into the hearts of many. Memorizing not only stretches the brain, but fills it with information that is easily retrieved at a later time. The ability to speak in public, recalling information learned, will help your child communicate effectively in life. The texts selected to learn and recite are fundamental texts of literature, primary sources and Scripture, and our Faith tradition that expound morality and life principles necessary for a happy life. Through memorization, these text become part of the child's working memory. Students are expected to learn the passages precisely as written, word for word, and recite them during the first weeks of school. Students can learn the texts by reading them or, if more beneficial, by hearing them by downloading a recorded copy or by recording it themselves and practicing with their own words. The passages are leveled, the simpler passages at the top, the more challenging towards the bottom. Students will be evaluated on the accuracy of their recitation and, new this year, on the clarity and expressiveness of their presentation.

Assignment: Memorize and be prepared to recite from memory the assigned text from the literature list, and the Scriptural passage or prayer from the Scripture list. *Note: for some grades, there is only one option in one or both lists.*

Summer Math (1st-8th grades): The purpose of Summer Math is to keep your child's math skills sharp through the summer months and to return to school in August ready to start the next year's work rather than reviewing what was learned this year. It is also a fun way to spend time online during the restful summer months. This year we are using Khan Academy to support our Summer Math review.

Website: www.khanacademy.org

Assignment: Log into your Kahn Academy school account and complete the missions your teachers has assigned. Once you finish, you have the option of completing additional math adventures!

Passcodes: Login and password - distributed and verified in class during May. Please email Mrs. Zielinski (mzielinski@sttheresaschool.com) if you do not remember your passcode or are new to the school!

Summer Keyboarding (Grades 4-8): Because technology is the means of modern communication for the students, the ability to quickly and efficiently manage the physical keyboard is an essential skill. Learning the traditional touch typing method allows students to efficiently and accurately input information into word processing or other documents. This, along with the formatting skills they will learn in the classroom, will be one part of helping the children become clear effective communicators. Mrs. Nicolas will introduce typing.com and set up students' accounts in class. Students have the opportunity to learn proper home row hand placement and the elements of touch typing which will strengthen their keyboarding skills and their efficiency with technology. Working on typing.com will continue through the school year so that every student is using the touch typing method with at least 85% accuracy. Parents of students in younger grades may request a typing.com account (or set one up themselves) if parents want to get a head start on touch typing!

Website: www.typing.com

Assignment: Type with 85% accuracy at the Advanced level by August 27. Already advanced? Go for speed!

Passcodes: Distributed and verified in class during May. Please email Mrs. Zielinski (mzielinski@sttheresaschool.com) if you do not remember your passcode or are new to the school!

Optional Activities:

Special Opportunity for 4th Graders: Every Kid in a Park!

Think about taking a trip to a national park...for FREE if you are in 4th grade! You can get your free Every Kid in a Park pass at www.everykidinapark.gov.

The Every Kid in a Park pass is good until August 31, 2018. Information on obtaining the pass is available by visiting www.everykidinapark.gov.

Metra: Kids Ride For Free All Summer Long

Up to three children age 11 and under will be able to ride free with each adult starting this Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. "A trip on Metra is a great opportunity to spend time together as a family without having to worry about traffic and parking," said Metra CEO/Executive Director Jim Derwinski. "Plus, on weekends, Metra's \$10 Weekend Pass gives you another reason to hop aboard the train this summer.

A St. Theresa School
CHRISTIAN SCHOLAR



All through this day, Lord, let me gently touch the lives of others, through the power of the Holy Spirit, by the prayer I breathe, the words I speak, and the life I live. Amen.