

Dear Parents,

We would like to take this time to share some thoughts and ideas with you that you might consider doing this summer to help maintain some of the skills your children have acquired this year in Kindergarten. Research tells us that children who do not use or practice their skills at all during the summer often regress substantially. Some of the skills we expect students to have in the fall are these:

1. Ability to recognize and write numbers to 20
2. Ability to write first and last names with appropriate capitalization
3. Recognition of all letters and recall related sounds

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, practice using fine motor skills like SHOE-TYING, cutting with scissors and coloring! Further, any literacy activities in which you and your child engage this summer - reading aloud, story writing or online books that may be available - will enhance your child's first grade experience. ST Math and Iready are available to use over the summer as well.

When the children enter first grade in the fall, it is suggested that they have the following school supplies. Please know that we will not be able to share items anymore due to safety guidelines, so they will need to have their own.

1. A backpack large enough to hold their lunch. Please do not send a backpack with wheels! They do not hang safely in our closets.
2. Box of Kleenex tissues .
3. Clorox wipes for cleaning tables and surfaces daily. (Extras are always needed)
4. A small box of 24 Crayola brand crayons.
5. Glue sticks. (Extras are always needed)
6. Colored pencils.
7. Hand wipes. (Extras are always needed)
8. Hand sanitizer. (Extras are always needed)
9. Headphones (Mandatory for technology use)

Please do not send in Trapper Keepers, notebooks or 3 ring binders.

At the start of the year we will be collecting \$7.00 from each student for these items:

1. \$5.00 for a Southampton Road School Planner
2. \$1.00 for a Communication Folder
3. \$1.00 for a Pencil Box (These are purchased ahead of time so they are all the same and ready to go for each student)

We hope that you find our suggestions a useful guide for you to use this summer. The more you can assist your child in maintaining his or her skills, the greater his or her chance for a successful start in first grade.

Sincerely,
The First Grade Teachers

