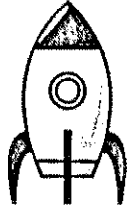


READING

is out of this

• RISING 4TH  
• SUMMER  
• ASSIGNMENT •

WORLD



## Rising Fourth Grade Summer Assignments

Welcome to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade at Saint James Catholic School! To avoid "summer slide," we encourage your child to invest some time during summer break enjoying, retaining, and growing math, reading, and writing skills.

### Summer Math Assignment:

*Retain and grow your math fact fluency by practicing math facts (addition, subtraction (1-100), multiplication and division) three times a week.*

There are many ways you can help your student retain their knowledge of math facts. We would recommend using either flashcards (physical or digital) or using an online program. Returning families are encouraged to continue using Reflex. Fluency in math facts is crucial for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We will be assessing students understanding of their math facts at the beginning of the year. You will be giving your child a great advantage in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and beyond if you ensure that studying math facts becomes routine.

*We also recommend that students use Moby Max to retain their math skills.*

### Summer Reading and Writing Assignments:

**Reading Assignment:** Read one book from the Virginia Mysteries Book Series by Seven K. Smith.

**Writing Assignment:** Write a letter to the author. Refer to the Summer Assignment packet for instructions. It has a sample letter, ideas for what to write about, paper for the letter, and the checklist you will use and attach to your letter. Please remember not mail your letter! Also, do not write your home address or last name on the letter! We will mail all the 4<sup>th</sup> grade letters to the author in September. The Summer Assignment packet was given to your child at school. If you need a new packet, please pick one up at the office.

**Due Date:** Turn in your handwritten (cursive) letter and checklist by Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Virginia State Reading Association named *Shadows at Jamestown* as a Virginia Readers' Choice elementary title for 2019-20. The historical themes in the series reinforce our social studies curriculum. The books contain facts about places such as Jamestown, Colonial Williamsburg, Mount Vernon, and Washington D.C. They also highlight significant historic figures including Pocahontas, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and more.

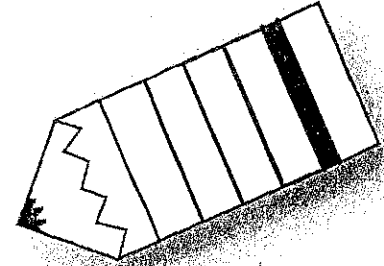
We look forward to meeting you in August! Have a happy summer!

The Fourth Grade Team

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Letter to the Author Checklist



- I included the date of the letter.
- I wrote the salutation, and added a comma afterwards.
- I indented the body of the letter.
- I included the closing, and added a comma afterwards.
- I included my signature / name at the end of the letter.
- I used my best handwriting to write the letter.
- My handwriting was neat and easy to read.
- I included the correct punctuation at the end of every sentence.
- I used capital letters at the beginning of each sentence, and in other areas, as needed.
- I asked the author a question, made a connection, or included an observation in the letter to the author.
- I used my best spelling strategies.
- I did my best thinking and writing.

# Letters to the Author Topics

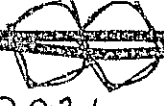
- I noticed that the setting of your book...
- I thought it was so interesting the way you...
- I love the genre of your book because...
- It was hard for me to continue reading the text because..
- The text reminded me...
- I wanted to read your book because...
- I would recommend your book to a friend because...
- I don't think I would recommend your book because...
- While reading your text, I was feeling...
- While reading your book, I was thinking about...
- While reading the text, I was imagining...
- If I was writing the ending, I would have...
- The ending of your book surprised me by...
- The main feeling I had while reading your book...
- I could tell that your message was...
- The illustrations from your book...

# Letters to the Author Topics

- The most memorable thing about your book...
- If I wrote the text, I would change...
- One part that was challenging for me was...
- Your book was interesting to me because...
- I noticed that you built suspense by...
- What surprised me most about your text was...
- My predictions about your book...
- I believe I know why you chose the title of the book...
- My favorite part about your book is...
- The part of your text that I disliked the most is...
- Your book was a good fit for me because...
- The text was like another book I once read...
- Your book made me think of something in my own life...
- The main character from your book reminded me of...
- An important question I have about the character is...
- While reading, I figured out that...

Letter to the author  
Sample

{Date} February 14, 2021



Dear Mr. Allen, {Greeting}

{Body} I enjoyed reading your book, The Tunnel Below. I was very surprised about the way that your book ended. I never expected Julie to return to the empty house to look for her best friend. What I expected to happen, is that Julie would keep running until she found her parents.

After rereading the ending of the book and discussing it with a friend, I began to see that it made sense for Julie to go back to the empty house. Julie's best friend was what really mattered in her life.

I can't wait to read another one of your books from the Gone Away Series.

Sincerely, {Closing}

Jen

{Signature}



