



Dear Rising 4th Grade Families,

We made it to summer break, what a wonderful time of year! I hope that you enjoy your summer and get plenty of rest and make lots of great memories. Most of you already know me, if you don't, my name is JoAnn Costanzo. I have been teaching 4th grade at St. John's for five years. My family and I have been a part of the St. John's school and parish for seventeen years. I have four children, ages 17-25, all who graduated from St. John's. We absolutely love the sense of community in both the school and parish! We feel very blessed to be a part of such a strong community.

As we begin our summer break, we have to remember how important it is to put some time aside to keep our minds active and keep them engaged over the long summer break. If they do not continue to grow their math and reading skills, they can lose some of the wonderful gains they made this past year.

All of that time they dedicated in third grade to learning their multiplication facts will be greatly impacted and lost if they don't keep practicing over the break. Fourth grade brings on many new math skills, multiplication remains constant from third grade on. In preparation for fourth grade, they must be fluent in their multiplication tables 0 - 12. I am including with my summer packet some math sheets, to include several multiplication worksheets. However, if you feel your child could benefit from some additional practice, you can go onto IXL (as you should all still have your ids and passwords), at least once a week and practice some of the multiplication skills. I really do hope that you take advantage of IXL, or print up more worksheets, it really makes a difference with how quickly they can jump back into math at the beginning of the school year.

For the reading component, I am asking that you purchase (or check out from the library) a copy of the book, "The Chocolate Touch," by Patrick Skene Catling. You can find it on Amazon for \$7.99. [The Chocolate Touch: Perfect Summer Reading for Kids: 9780688161330: Patrick Skene Catling, Margot Apple](#)

After completing the book, I am asking that your child completes the short book report that I have included. They are encouraged to use additional pages if needed to write complete sentences on their analysis of the book. Have fun and be creative!

"In this zany twist on the legend of King Midas and his golden touch, a boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate! Kids will eat this up for summer reading or anytime!

Can you ever have too much of your favorite food? John Midas is about to find out....

The Chocolate Touch has remained a favorite for millions of kids, teachers, and parents for several generations. It's an enjoyable story that pulls in even reluctant readers."



Both the math and book report will be due when they return to school in August. Please space out the math and reading over the summer if you can so that when your child returns to school, they will be ready to jump right in! Again, if they struggled with learning their math facts this past year, please take the time to do flash cards, so that it becomes easier for them to answer multiplication problems. This will make things so much easier for them in the fall if they have their math facts memorized.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing all of you in August!

Warm Regards,

Mrs. Costanzo