



June 4, 2026

Dear Parents:

Studies over the last 30 years show that a decrease in cognitive skills happens in summer when children are out of school and not actively engaged in thinking and learning. In fact, research conducted by the NWEA on "Summer Slide" actually shows that students lose over 20% of skills and knowledge gained during the prior school year - BUT THERE ARE WAYS TO PREVENT THIS! Please read more in the following articles:

(<https://www.nwea.org/blog/2024/summer-learning-loss-what-we-know-what-were-learning/>
<https://www.common sense.org/education/articles/help-students-avoid-the-summer-slide-and-still-have-fun>
<https://teachingwithamountainview.com/how-to-prevent-summer-slide/>).

In an effort to continue to combat this slide - and build upon the tremendous growth we saw this past school year in Reading and Math - St. Ferdinand School is continuing its **MANDATORY SUMMER LEARNING** for incoming 3-Year-Old Preschool - incoming 8th Graders. This year, **SUMMER LEARNING** will be in the form of a **PACKET THAT REVIEWS MATH/READING/WRITING CONCEPTS COVERED DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR YOUR CHILD JUST COMPLETED.**

FOR FULL CREDIT, THIS PACKET NEEDS TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL COMPLETED WITH ALL MATH WORK SHOWN BY THE 3RD DAY OF SCHOOL - THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026.

Students who do not complete their packets by this date will work with Principal Folino during lunch and recess times that week until the work is finished.

It is our hope that this **MANDATORY PACKET** (worth credit in next year's ELA and Math classes), along with daily summer reading and math fact practice - as well as experiential, hands-on learning through museum trips, nature hikes, travel - will slow the Summer Slide in your child and start the next year off on a successful foot.

Thank you for your cooperation with the completion of the **SUMMER READING & MATH PACKET** at St. Ferdinand School to keep your children engaged and learning while we're apart!

Sincerely,

Principal Erin Boyle Folino, M.A., M.Ed.