

FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL *of* CHARLESTON

ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE



CHRISTIAN
PERSPECTIVE

Dear FBS Families,

As we wrap up another wonderful school year, we want to thank you for your partnership, support, and commitment to your child's growth and learning. We are incredibly proud of all that our students have accomplished this year!

While summer is a much-needed time for rest, fun, and family memories, it is also important to continue exercising the mind so that the progress made during the school year is not lost to the "summer slide." As the saying goes, "If you don't use it, you lose it!"

To help students stay sharp and confident for the upcoming school year, our teachers have thoughtfully prepared meaningful yet manageable summer work. We understand that schoolwork may not be at the top of every student's summer wish list, but even small amounts of consistent academic engagement can make a tremendous difference.

Research from the National Summer Learning Association and NWEA shows that students can lose significant academic progress over the summer months—particularly in reading and math—without regular practice and enrichment opportunities. In fact, studies suggest students may lose up to 20–30% of school-year gains during summer break if learning completely stops.

The good news is that the summer slide is preventable. Completing the assigned summer work, reading regularly, practicing math skills, exploring educational activities, and engaging in intentional learning for just 2–3 hours per week can help students maintain and even strengthen the skills they worked so hard to build this year. [You can find more information here and some ideas for home.](#)

Most importantly, we hope your summer is filled with joy, rest, adventure, and quality time together as a family. We are already looking forward to welcoming everyone back for an outstanding 2026–2027 school year!

Blessings,

Susan Brooks

Do not forget to check out the Charleston County Library and join their Summer Reading Challenge. They have great incentives, and it is all done through an APP and easy to track. <https://www.ccpl.org/summeronline>

Welcome to the fourth grade!

I am looking forward to having you in my class in August. Summer is a great time to relax, have fun, and enjoy reading good books. I am asking each student to read one book over the summer and complete the book activity I shared below. I'd also like students to write a weekly summer journal entry to keep their creative writing brains energized. I'm asking for just one entry per week over the course of 8 weeks with a minimum of 4 sentences per entry. Details on both assignments are below. Each assignment is worth a test grade for ELA for the first quarter. These assignments will be due on the first day of school. In order for the book to count towards your summer reading requirement, the book title or book from a series must be on the list below. Students will not get credit for reading books that are not included on the list. You are encouraged to read more than one book if you'd like!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email. schaiblea@fbschool.org I look forward to meeting you all in August! Happy Summer Reading!

Love, Mrs. Schaible

A Great Time to Journal

When you first start writing a journal, it can be quite intimidating. There are so many different options on what to write about, but journal writing doesn't have to be complicated! Summer may be the best time to try it. I'd like each student to write just one entry per week over the course of 8 weeks with a minimum of 4 sentences per entry. Feel free to write on loose leaf paper that you staple together or in any small notebook you have at home, as long as it's written neatly on lined paper. Have fun journaling and I look forward to reading all about the summer before 4th grade when we meet in August! Here are some tips on how to make journal writing more fun:

Start With Small Topics- Don't take on the big topics right away, but write about something simple, like something that made you laugh or an animal that lives in your yard. This way, you can explore your feelings about these topics without feeling overwhelmed by the task.

Use Prompts to Spark the Writer Within You- I have listed several summer writing prompts below that you are more than welcome to use to help get you started each week. Feel free to write about whatever inspires you that week.

Possible Writing Prompts

1. What makes you feel like summer is finally here?
2. What words can you use to describe summer?
3. What does summer smell like?
4. What happens at the beginning, middle, and end of summer?
5. How did your school year end?
6. Write down what you're looking forward to this summer.
7. What goals have you set for yourself this summer? (e.g., make a new friend, travel more often).
8. Who'll you spend the summer with?
9. What's the best part of summer?
10. How would you describe a perfect summer day?
11. Do you like to be outside in the summer or prefer to stay inside? And why?
12. How do you feel about picnics in the summer? Do you have a favorite food or place to have a picnic?
13. What're three summer activities you want to do this summer?

14. What summer activity is at the top of your agenda for your next summer vacation?
15. What did you do on your last vacation?
16. What's your favorite food to eat in the summer?
17. Your favorite summer drink?
18. Your favorite ice cream?
19. Your favorite summer song?
20. Your favorite summer story?
21. Your favorite writing activity?
22. Your favorite summer activity (beach, pool, etc.)?
23. What's your favorite summer movie and why?
24. What kind of books do you like to read at the beach and why?
25. What animal would be your spirit animal for the summer? (For example, a dolphin because it's playful and friendly).
26. You and your family are on vacation! What're you doing there? (picture or story)
27. What's your favorite memory of summer camp?
28. What's the most amazing thing you've ever seen in nature?
29. Write about a song that reminds you of summer vacation.
30. What does July 4th mean to you?
31. What do you think is the best part of summer?
32. What do you think is the worst part of summer?
33. What did you do this summer that you're proud of?
34. What's your favorite thing to do outside this summer?
35. If summer were a person, what kind of personality would it have?

Book Activity

Choose one book from the list below to read and complete the following activity.

Additional Chapter- Pretend the author of the novel has come to you to give you the opportunity to write an additional chapter at the end of the book. Write a paper about what would happen in this chapter. These events can occur now or in future years. These events should relate to the overall plot/theme of the novel. You must include characters from the novel in this new chapter. This needs to be at least 12 sentences.

Below are possible book choices- Please choose a book that is on your reading level and you have not read before.

Chocolate Fever by Robert K. Smith	The Secret Garden by Francis Burnette	Stuart Little by E.B. White
Freckle Juice by Judy Blume	A Series of Unfortunate Events by	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
Frindle by Andrew Clements	Lemony Snicket (series) The Hardy Boys by Franklin W. Dixon	The B.F.G. by Roald Dahl
Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary	Nancy Drew by Carolyn Keene	Indian in the Cupboard by Lynne Reid Banks
How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell	The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate	American Girl by various authors (series)
No Talking by Andrew Clements	Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls	The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick
Ramona Quimby by Beverly Cleary	Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard Atwater	Lunch Money by Andrew Clements
Flush by Carl Hiaasen	Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson	Lost in the Pacific, 1942 by Tod Olson
Hoot by Carl Hiaasen	The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies	Esperanza Rising by Pam Ryan
Scat by Carl Hiaasen	Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren	Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Curtis
Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder (series)	The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary	Prisoner of War by Michael Spradlin
The One and Only Bob by Katherine Applegate	James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl	Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo	Wonder by R.J. Palacio	Iceberg by Jennifer Nielsen
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle	Hatchet by Gary Paulson	Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo	Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine	Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
The Harry Potter Series by JK Rowling		

First Baptist Summer Math Requirement

Each student should complete a minimum of ten (10) IXL's listed below. Your goal is to complete one activity per week. This should not be done all at once and should be spread out throughout the summer. Please complete the skill even if it says you have already previously completed it during the school year. You should use a notebook or dry erase board to do your work.

1. Login to IXL with your account (Your login information is in your 3rd grade Binder.)

a. If you are new, the office will send your account information 2. In the search bar type in the 3 letter/digit code and the skill will pop up a. Do not type in the name of the skill. You must use the code given

3. Complete skill to at least 90%.

IXL Requirement: Each skill should be completed to 90%. If you struggle with this particular skill and spend more than 30 minutes in one sitting, stop and come back to it on another day. Be sure to read through the suggestions on iXL and if you are still struggling. IXL gives you the option at the bottom to watch a video or review the lesson.

IXL Assignment	Completion Date	Achievement Score	Difficulty- circle one
Code: 2GS Convert between standard and expanded form			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: 3Y9 Estimate sums by rounding: up to 1000			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: 83X Subtract two numbers with four digits			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: TK7 Multiplication facts to 12			Easy, Medium, Hard

Code: X5D Multiply one-digit numbers by two-digit numbers: word problems			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: TA7 Division facts up to 12			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: UWH Match mixed numbers to models			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: 8KJ Find the area of rectangles and squares			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: 65Z Perimeter of rectilinear shapes			Easy, Medium, Hard
Code: V6L Identify Parallelograms			Easy, Medium, Hard

Extra practice: This is not required but highly recommended.

Code: U7B Find the end time			
Code: T7L Purchases - Do you have enough money?			

My child, _____, has completed his/her math requirement. Parent

signature: _____ Student signature: _____