

# Grace Episcopal Day School

## Summer Skills Practice

Each year, we provide academic suggestions to help our students retain skills and prepare for the upcoming school year.

### Rising Kindergarten

To help your child feel confident and prepared for kindergarten, we recommend simple daily practice focused on foundational skills.

- Read together 15–20 minutes daily to build language, comprehension, and a love for books
- Practice letter recognition (A–Z), sounds, and writing first and last name
- Build number recognition and counting skills from 1–20 through everyday activities
- Strengthen fine motor skills; coloring, cutting, drawing, playdough (pinching and rolling)
- Encourage independence with tasks; dressing, opening snacks, and cleaning up on their own

### Rising 1st Grade

To help your child feel confident and prepared for first grade, we recommend simple daily practice focused on foundational skills.

- Read together or on their own 15–20 minutes daily to build language, comprehension, and a love of books
- Practice letter recognition (Aa–Zz), sounds, and writing first and last name (with appropriate use of uppercase and lowercase letters) i.e LESLIE BRANSFORD should be Leslie Bransford
- Practice basic sight words
- Build number recognition, counting skills, and writing from 1–100 through everyday activities
- Strengthen fine motor skills with coloring, cutting, drawing, lacing, using small manipulatives, puzzles, and games
- Encourage independence with tasks; packing and unpacking backpack, cleaning up on their own, dressing, opening snacks, and tying shoes.

### Rising 2nd Grade

To help your child feel confident and prepared for the school year, rising second graders should:

- Read on their own or with a family member 20 minutes daily with a focus on rereading for fluency and comprehension
- Practice and be able to recall addition and subtraction facts up to 20 automatically
- Write all uppercase and lowercase letters neatly with appropriate size and position on the line.
- Count and write numbers from 0 to 120
- Encourage independence with tasks; preparing and packing snacks and lunches, tying shoes, and following morning/bedtime routines.

### Rising 3rd Grade

**Reading:** Please read one of the following: *The Dragon in the Library* by Louie Stowell, *Og the Frog* by Betty G. Birney, or *Wedgie and Gizmo* by Suzanne Selfors

A brief written assessment will be given on the chosen book the first week of school.

**Math:** Students should be able to add and subtract all facts up to 20 automatically. A pre-test will be given on multiplication facts the first week of school.

**Workbooks:** We recommend the Summer Bridge Activities (Grades 2–3) workbook (optional)

### Rising 4th Grade

**Reading:** Please read two of the following: *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume, *Frindle* by Andrew Clements, *Who Was Walt Disney?* by Whitney Stewart.

A quiz will be given on the books chosen the first week of school.

**Math:** Students should practice fluency with addition and subtraction facts to 20 and multiplication and division facts to 10. A quiz will be given on multiplication facts the first week of school.

**Workbook:** Spectrum Math Review Workbook–Review of 3rd grade math skills (optional)

### Rising 5th Grade

**Reading:** Please read two of the following: *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell, *The BFG* by Roald Dahl, *Iron Thunder* by Avi, *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, or *Maniac McGee* by Jerry Spinelli.

Students will have a comprehension assessment the first week of school.

**Math:** Students should have quick recall of multiplication facts numbers 0-12. There will be a fact quiz the first week of school.

### Rising 6th Grade

**Reading:** Choose two of the following books to read: *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians Book 1: The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan, *Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* by Candace Fleming, or *The Chronicles of Narnia Book 1: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis.

Students will have a comprehension assessment the first week of school.

**Math:** Students should have a quick recall of multiplication facts numbers 0-12. There will be a fact quiz the first week of school.

### Rising 7th Grade

**Reading:** Students should read two of the following books: *Red, White, and Whole* by Rajani LaRocca, *Refugee* by Alan Gratz, *Winterhouse* by Ben Guttersen, or *I Am Malala - Young Reader's Edition*, by Malala Yousafzai. During the first week of school, students will discuss their novels and take a written assessment.

**Math:** Students should spend 30 minutes each week working on recommended skills in IXL.

### Rising 8th Grade

**Reading:** Students should read two of the following books: *Uglies* by Scott Westerfield, *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie, *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds, or *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak. During the first week of school, students will discuss their novels and take a written assessment.

**Math:** Students should spend 30 minutes each week working on recommended skills in IXL.

