

Dear Families,

I can't believe we have reached the end of school. Your kids have worked so hard this year--I am incredibly proud of them.

This summer, I have provided students with a comprehensive packet of math review that will keep them fresh and ready to enter 5th grade with confidence. **Over the summer, kids should aim to practice math about 5X per week for 20 min at minimum. This practice can take the form of:**

- Working in the packet
- Spending time working on Dreambox (not buying things with their coins)
- Playing a math game with peers/parents
- Spending time on a math challenge
- Working with parents on multiplication facts

Each time a student completes a math task, they should draw a star on their recording sheet and have it initialed by a parent. We are working toward at least 1,000 stars and a reward from Nick/Maggie Day at the beginning of the year!

These packets should be turned into Nick during the first week of the fall. Families and students are, of course, very busy during the school year. Please do your best to help your child budget their time to make significant progress on or finish the packet and explore other math activities.

If you are seeking games, extra challenges, or fun activities to do as a family, I am linking [a comprehensive list of resources](#). You can find articles and TED talks for your kids and family, games, math tools, and websites that provide fun and engaging extensions for your child.

The summer packets are going home today, but there is a copy attached to this message if it is misplaced.

Wishing you and your family a fun-filled summer!

All the best,
Emma

Dear Incoming 5th Grade Families:

Today I had the pleasure of meeting with your children during our Move-up Meeting this afternoon. I'm so excited to be teaching such a curious and enthusiastic bunch and feel so very grateful that we have eaten lunch and done yoga together all year already!

During our time together, I showed them a list of "Best Things about Fifth Grade" that my class had put together for them (ask them what was on it!), we went over the summer reading expectations, and they wrote a piece called "All About Me," with some important information about them for me to know.

The summer reading is I Lived on Butterfly Hill by Marjorie Agosin. It's a historical fiction book about a Chilean refugee with themes of power, friendship, assimilation, the quest for justice, and the power of the written word to preserve history. It is a monster of a book (464 pages!), so definitely find a copy sooner rather than later, and map out how many pages a day to read so the task doesn't feel too overwhelming. It's a wonderful read, and I would also highly recommend reading it aloud together or reading it alongside them. In addition to the assigned book, students should read two other books of their choice.

If your child is not proficient in typing (hunt and peck method vs. actual fingering position), I highly recommend summer practice ([Typing Club](#) has been popular in the past), so they are already entering fifth grade with this skill firmly under their belt.

Looking forward to meeting all of you next school year and wishing you a sane last day of school and smooth transition into summer.

Best,
Talia