

Dear 8th GradeParents,

This summer, there are 2 **required** parts to the 8th grade summer assignment.

1. Language Arts (explained on pages 2 and 3 by Mr. Abbott)
2. Math (explained on page 4 by Mrs. Knox)

For Language Arts, they must read the book, complete a writing assignment, and be prepared to discuss when they return in August. This assignment gives students the opportunity to stay engaged throughout the summer and start the year off in a productive manner. Eighth grade students will read a biography and complete a writing assignment. **Reading the book and completing the attached assignment is required and will lead into the first unit of Language Arts in August.**

For maintaining math skills, students must log in to IXL for some practice over the summer. Mrs. Knox has included the instructions in the attached letter. **This extra math practice is required. students that complete 8 hours of IXL math over the course of the summer and their reading assignment will earn a free dress day on the first Friday of the school year.**

Our goal is to further engage students in the materials they will be taught in class while striving to develop their reading comprehension and synthesis skills. Development of these skills is critical to a student's success in multiple subjects as they progress through Junior High, High School and College.

Sincerely,

Tony Groseta, Assistant
Principal
***Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Catholic School***
2117 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ
85282
(480) 967-5567
www.olmcschool.info
[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)



Summer Reading Project for Incoming 8th Graders: Autobiography or Biography

1-Go to the local library, bookstore or online book seller such as Amazon and select either an autobiography or biography to read. Be sure you select an individual you have interest in reading about and learning more about. Book should be a minimum of 100 pages.

2-Read the book over the summer and complete the three paragraph writing assignment found on page 3 of this packet. (**Biography Report Three Paragraph Writing Assignment**)

3-When we return to school in August, you will do a short presentation about the person you did your autobiography/biography project on.

Biography Report Three Paragraph Writing Assignment:

- I. **Introductory Paragraph:** The required elements that must be included in this paragraph are the following: The title of the book, the author, the year published, why you selected the individual (a simple statement of I wanted to learn more about this person or some other boring point is not suggested. Really explain from a personal perspective why you choose your subject. That is, what was the personal connection that led you to this person and biography?) Introductory paragraph should be 5 to 7 or 6 to 8 solid sentences.
- II. **Body Paragraph:** Describe the setting of the story. What were the primary locations of your person's life? What time period did your person live in? Give a detailed character description of your individual. What challenges did your person face and overcome? Who influenced your individual's life? What events impacted your person's life? What impact has your individual had in their specific field/job etc...? The body paragraph should be 10 to 14 solid sentences.
- III. **Concluding Paragraph:** What was your overall impression of the individual you read about? Did you find them likable or dislikable? What did you learn about this individual's life that you can apply to your own? Were there any similarities that you share with your person? Would you recommend this book to others? Concluding paragraph should be 5 to 7 sentences.

Rubric:

- A) Answered all or most of all elements in each paragraph
- B) Underline book title
- C) Conventions are solid (Spelling, sentence structure, grammar, varied vocabulary evident)
- D) Three clear paragraphs evident
- E) Final product is neat and represents a personal best effort
- F) MLA Heading

Dear Students/Parents,

You have worked very hard this year in math learning many skills and concepts. Practice helps us maintain what we have learned.

For practice this summer, you will be using IXL to maintain your computation and problem solving skills. In order for optimal retention and maintenance of skills, we are asking that you spend time working on IXL in June and July (it's more beneficial than doing it all in June and then taking a month off).

8 hours of Math on IXL are REQUIRED for all incoming 8th graders

Instructions:

1) Go to: <https://www.ixl.com>. You can use your home computer or you can download IXL's free tablet apps for iPad, Android, or Kindle. 2) Enter your username and password and click "sign in" You **MUST** sign in **with your username and password every time you work on IXL or your session will not be reported/saved.**

2.) Go to: **Assessment** in the green bar at the top (click on it). Click on **"Step into the Arena"** and choose a question to start. Take the diagnostic, IXL will let you know when you are done.

3.) After you take the Diagnostic, you will be given suggested skills to improve on. (Yes! The diagnostic counts towards your 8 hours.)

4.) To find those skills later on, go to Diagnostic and scroll down to "Print Diagnostic Action Plan" (You **do not need** to print) These are the skills the diagnostic found you need to work on. You can click on each one of the skills in the action plan to practice.

5.) Remember this is a requirement, but also a way to keep your math brains active. Please do not work solely on the diagnostic, but also do the practices it suggests for you.

Here is also a general list of skills to focus on for each grade level-

Incoming 7th Grade	Incoming 8th Grade
Fraction Operations	Integers
Decimal Operations	Expressions
1 Step Equations	Equations
Coordinate Plane	Graphing

Have a wonderful summer!

Mrs. Knox