

# Millstone Township Elementary School

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Dear Families,

Today marks the first day of summer and the final days of school. Families often wonder how best help their student avoid the dreaded “summer slide” and we here at school are often approached for advice in this area. Below, please find some quick tips to help your student stay fresh for September!

## Reading:

Making time to read each day this summer is important to maintaining your child’s reading skills and helps ensure success in September. As little as twenty minutes of reading each day keeps students’ decoding and comprehension skills sharp. While we also encourage students to read a variety of texts, any reading is better than no reading during the summer months. Research supports that consistent daily opportunities to have *eyes on print* is critical to reading development. So, feel free to encourage your child to read what they prefer this summer; it all counts! Want to know the easiest way to support summer reading? **Encourage your child to participate in our summer reading challenge!** Students love to read for an opportunity to win a special prize in the fall! Students may also wish to access their Achieve3000 accounts to participate in the Achieve3000 summer contest!

## Writing:

Just like reading, find time to write daily is encouraged. Students may enjoy keeping a journal, writing to a friend or relative, or even making a scrapbook or comic. Finding small enjoyable ways to write during the summer months develops creativity and helps students practice their mechanics. **This summer we encourage students to send us a postcard or a short letter!** We love hearing from our students and seeing all the fun they are having.

## Math:

Practicing basic math facts throughout the summer months supports fluency and automaticity! Continued practice of our math facts helps us be ready for more complex computation in the fall. We also encouraged students to participate in everyday activities that require mathematical thinking. Everything from baking, creating a budget and using that budget to shop for a barbeque, or even constructing a summer garden can be fun ways apply math concepts! **Students are also encouraged to complete our summer math packet (also posted online) for a little additional practice.**

While we hope these tips are useful, we also hope summer vacation provides your family a time to relax, reconnect, and make memories. It has been another wonderful school year filled with proud moments and laughter. Mr. Hobson and I want to thank our families, the staff, and entire Millstone community for their continued commitment to our school.

Happy Summer,

Suzanne & Scott