

June, 2021

Dear Rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and Families:

This summer, all students entering the Middle School for the 2021-2022 academic year will be asked to complete a mathematics packet before the first day of school (8/24/21). While we realize that summer vacation is a time for students to relax and engage in a variety of non-school related activities, it is also a time to continue the development and nurturing of key academic skills that will enable our students to grow as effective thinkers in the years to come. Just as we understand the value and importance of reading throughout the year, we also know that mathematics is another language that needs ongoing attention and cultivation, especially during the formative Middle School years.

With this in mind, Seven Hills Middle School is asking each student to complete a summer mathematics packet (a different packet is prepared for each grade level and course) in order to give her/him the opportunity to keep fresh some of the key fundamental elements of mathematical thinking that s/he has been exposed to during the past academic year, with the goal of maintaining and extending skills that were acquired during the school year. We ask you to use this material, realizing that the adolescent mind needs continual exposure to important academic skills in order to mature at a pace that will allow students to return to school in August, ready for the new challenges of the upcoming academic year. The mathematics packet is meant to **refresh** and **reinforce** important mathematical skills so that students can begin the academic year ready for the challenges of new and more demanding mathematical material.

Please note that the summer mathematics packet is not intended to become a summer math course for our students. This might simply mean having your child spend 15-20 minutes a few times a week working on the math packet during the summer. Just as we ask parents to help their child find time to read over the summer months, we are similarly asking parents to help their child find time to think mathematically during the course of the summer. This completed packet, along with the student's accompanying work, should be brought to the first day of school and will be collected by her/his math teacher and appropriately assessed.

Additionally, your child should practice his/her "math facts" (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division of whole numbers from 0-12). Being able to retrieve these quickly and from memory is key to your child's success in Middle School math and beyond. Two possible sites to use for practicing math facts are <http://www.math-drills.com/> and [www.freerice.org](http://www.freerice.org).

Thank you for understanding the spirit and intention of the summer mathematics packet. Please visit the **Stinger Central** section of the Seven Hills website to access the appropriate summer packet for your child. As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have questions.

Here's to a fun and productive summer! Take care.



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