

May 2022

Dear Junior High Parents,

Each summer, incoming OLMC 7th and 8th grade students are assigned a summer reading book. They must read the book, write answers to questions, 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. Incoming seventh grade students will read *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki. It is available in your local libraries, on various devices such as Kindle and Nook, and at your local bookstores. OLMC does not provide copies of the summer reading books. **Reading the book and completing the attached assignment is required and will lead into the first unit of Language Arts in August.**

Junior High students are no longer required to take Accelerated Reader tests. Students will be given specific quarterly reading projects of a variety of genres to supplement and deepen the study of the books they are reading for class. When the students return in the fall, these requirements will be outlined for them.

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.

For maintaining math skills, students are encouraged to log in to IXL for some practice over the summer. Mrs. Knox has included the instructions in the attached letter. **This extra practice is optional, but 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.**

Sincerely,

Tony Groseta  
Vice Principal  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School

**7th Grade Summer Reading: Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki**

*Farewell to Manzanar* is a true story about the Japanese- American internment camp experience during World War II. Besides reading this novel, be prepared to turn in the following during the first week of school in August:

- 1) Besides numbering the chapters to the story, the author gave each chapter of the book a title. Briefly explain each chapter title. Write two to three sentences for each explained title.
- 2) How did the internment experience impact and change the author (Jeanne Wakatsuki)? What experiences in the camp made Jeanne become a young adult?
- 3) How did the internment experience impact and change Jeanne's family? ( Pay close attention to Jeanne's father especially )
- 4) In your opinion, was the internment the right thing to do? Explain

\*For questions 2-4, we will have in-depth discussions. Be able to cite page numbers to support your answers for these questions. We will review the packet in class the first week of school.

**Lastly, you will also have a test on the story when you return to OLMC in August. The test will assess your comprehension of the story's plot, characters and setting.**

Have a restful and blessed summer!

Mr. Abbott

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).

**This is optional. If you would like to have a free dress day,  
8 hours needs to be completed.**

**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: Diagnostic 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 begin your summer practice (Yes! The diagnostic counts towards your 8 hours.)

4.) Sign into IXL again. 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 optional and 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.

Have a wonderful summer!

Mrs. Knox