



Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is well known that students tend to lose some of their academic skill and knowledge over the summer break. Although All Saints was able to maintain excellent student academic growth despite a shortened school year and all the impacts of COVID-19, work is still needed to retain these gains over the summer and prepare for the next school year. To accomplish this, ASCS will have a guided summer math program based on IXL.

The summer math program will have two main goals. The first is to strengthen and improve student skills in areas of weakness that are substantially below their current grade level. The second will be to get a jump-start on next year's math curriculum.

Starting with the second goal, because IXL is fully aligned with the Big Ideas textbooks ASCS uses, it will be possible to assign students exercises from IXL that are directly connected to the opening chapters of the math text they will use in the coming school year. This will allow the students to hit the ground running in the Fall and allow for a smooth transition into their new math class. There will also be some assignments of a general nature tied to specific skills such as measurement and calculation fluency that Middle School students, regardless of level and class, will be assigned. All students will receive these assignments through IXL with additional details in Google Classroom.

The first goal will be more individual in nature and will vary from student to student. The recently taken IXL Diagnostic, as well as other similar assessments and tests, has helped highlight both your student's strengths and weaknesses. Although it is normal for a student's abilities to vary from one math skill to another, where there is a significant gap, that is more than two grade levels, between the skill level and their current grade level, action needs to be taken. For example, at the start of 7th Grade, a student should have no skills below a 5th Grade level. The ASCS summer program will focus on remediating and closing the skill gaps. Individual students will receive recommended assignments through IXL, in Google Classroom, and email to accomplish this with the goal.

Tailoring these two goals to the needs of the individual students means that the minimum requirements for the summer math program will differ from student to student. As a rule of thumb, each student should do at least 30 minutes per week or 240 minutes of IXL math for the summer which should translate to 3 IXL skill units per week or just over 20 skills for the summer. The ultimate goal in every case will be to raise each student's overall math ability and skill level, and to prepare them for the coming school year.

Your student should be expecting to receive a detailed message in Google Classroom at the start of the summer. They will also receive a list of recommended skills and topics in IXL over the next week. As always if there are questions or need for further information, please feel free to Shana Druffner or Brian Suddendorf.

The All Saints Math Team