

Dear Families and Students,

The following summer assignments are required for the sixth grade class of 2025-2026:

(1) **Grade 6 English** (Ms. Cavan)

All incoming 6th grade students are asked to read *The First State of Being* by Erin Entrada Kelly over the summer. You will receive a copy before summer vacation begins, and the book is also available at local libraries and bookstores. During the first week of school in September, students will take part in class discussions and complete a small creative project inspired by the novel.

(2) **Grade 6 Math** (Ms. Viola, Mr. Pinola, Mr. Harrington)

Successful students in the middle 6th grade math section come into the school year with mastery of and exposure to the following skills. 6th grade math teachers recommend all students review the concepts listed below in the last month of summer break. The links provided give instructional videos and practice problems for each topic.

Mastery of the following skills:

- Long division and multi-digit multiplication (standard algorithms)
 - [Long division and multi-digit multiplication videos and practice](#)
- Adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers (with unlike denominators)
 - [Adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers videos and practice](#)
- Adding and subtracting decimals
 - [Adding decimals videos and practice](#)
 - [Subtracting decimals videos and practice](#)
- Order of operations
 - [Order of operations videos and practice](#)

Exposure to the following skills:

- Multiplying fractions and mixed numbers
 - [Multiplying fractions videos and practice](#)
- Multiplying decimals
 - [Multiplying decimals videos and practice](#)

(3) **Summer Reading:**

DCD Middle School Summer Reading List for 2025

Middle School students at DCD are asked to read at least one book this summer that they have not previously read. When we return in September, students will share what they read with their advisories.

Here are some curated “best” lists that provide options for rising 6th Graders:

[MA Children’s Book Award](#)

[GoodReads Best Young Adult Fiction](#)

[Epic Reads - Young Adults](#)

[Young Adult Literacy Services Association](#)

[New York Public Library Best Books for Kids](#)

The list below was created by 6th grade students in the Class of 2027, who offered their favorite recent books as suggestions for summer reading options.

Kwame Alexander: *The Crossover*
Clive Barker: *Thief of Always*
Kimberly Brubaker Bradley: *The War That Saved My Life*
Rob Buyea: *Because of Mr. Terupt*
Sharon Draper: *Blended*
Megan E. Freeman: *Alone*
Alan Gratz: *Prisoner B-3087*
Mike Lupica: *Heat*
James Ponti: *City Spies*
Laura Silverman: *Girl out of Water*
Trenton Lee Stewart: *The Mysterious Benedict Society*
Angie Thomas: *On the Come Up*

The following list of YA suggestions was created by 8th grade students from the Class of 2024.

Jennifer De Leon: *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From*
Jennifer De Leon: *Borderless*
John Green: *Paper Towns, The Fault in Our Stars*
Jason Reynolds: *All American Boys*
Adam Silvera: *They Both Die at the End*
Adam Silvera: *The First to Die at the End I*
Nic Stone: *Dear Martin*
Tahereh Mafi: *Shatter Me* (series)
Lauren Roberts: *Powerless*
Holly Jackson: *A Good Girls Guide to Murder* (series); *Five Survive*
Karen M. McManus: *One of Us is Lying* series
Holly Black: *The Cruel Prince* series
Jennifer Lynne Barnes: *The Inheritance Games* (series); *The Naturals* (series)
Rebecca Ross: *Divine Rivals*
Kristen Hannah: *The Nightingale*
Sandra Block: *Girl Overboard*
Jenny Han: *The Summer I Turned Pretty*
Lynn Painter (many YA rom-coms)
Veronica Roth: *Divergent* series

Stephenie Meyers: *Twilight* series

Suzanne Collins: *The Hunger Games* series

Kenneth Oppel: *The Overthrow* series (*Bloom, Hatch, Thrive*)

(4) **6th Grade Spanish:** (Señora Andrade-de León) Incoming students who were not in the LS, or students for whom summer work is indicated, should have proficiency in the following concepts:

To memorize:

1) Question Words

▶ Question Words in Spanish

▶ Spanish Question Words Song | Jingle Bells tune (sing-along)

2) [Numbers](#)

3) [colors](#)

4) [the alphabet](#)

5) [basic weather terms](#)

6) Identifying and conjugating regular -AR, -ER and -IR verbs in Spanish.

Google doc with notes:

☰ Summary of Regular -AR, -ER, and -IR Verb Conjugations in Spanish

Practice worksheet and answer key:

☰ 5ºSpanish Regular -AR, -ER, -IR Verbs Practice Worksheet

Videos:

▶ 01024 Spanish Lesson - Present Tense - AR verbs: all forms

▶ Present Tense -AR Verbs Song for Spanish!

▶ 01034 Spanish Lesson - Present Tense - regular -ER verbs

▶ Present Tense -ER Verbs Made Easy with a Song in Spanish!

▶ 01054 Spanish Lesson - Present tense: Regular -IR verbs

▶ Present Tense -IR Verbs Made Easy with a Song in Spanish!

7) Basic body parts:

▶ Learn Spanish | Parts of the Body | English to Spanish | Rock 'N Learn

(5) Students new to **Latin** can refer to [this document](#) for information, but there is no required Summer work.

If you have any questions about the summer assignments, please do not hesitate to contact your teacher or Mr. Buffum (nbuffum@dcds.net).