



Summer Bridge Newsletter:

Bridging the Gap Between 2nd and 3rd Grade

This newsletter is designed to help prepare upcoming second graders for third grade. Please read the information and use the ideas throughout the summer. This will help to make the beginning of the school year much smoother.

Math Moments

One of the key elements for mathematics success during third grade is making sure that students have a strong command of all basic mathematics facts (1-12). They should have these facts committed to memory and be able to respond to the question with speed and accuracy. The reason this is so important is that students will be working with increasingly difficult mathematical processes. Their thoughts need to be focused on these new processes not on adding or subtracting the numbers involved.

Start with addition and subtraction. Once your child has mastered these basic facts, you can practice with multiplication and division. Make sure that your child understands what these processes represent. Multiplication is like repeated addition. 5×3 is 5 three times. Division is splitting the number up into a certain number of equal groups.

Practicing these facts does not need to be time-consuming or boring. You can practice in the car or at the beach. You can make it into a game. Just remember, practice is key.

Word Power

Our 3rd graders will be introduced to a new level of vocabulary words next year. To help your child be prepared, we suggest that you go over some of the words that are introduced earlier in the program. The word list can be found at the school's website.

Tyndall School Website:

www.bayschools.com/schools/tes

Questions and Answers

A great way to help students prepare for writing and reading is to answer questions with complete sentences. For example, if you ask your child what he or she would like for dinner, don't take "Chicken" as the answer. Have your child say, "I would like fried chicken for dinner." By having your child rephrase the question and create an original answer, you are helping to build a foundation for effective reading comprehension and writing. This is an easy thing to practice, but the positive effects are powerful.

Practice writing skills during the summer. Making lists and writing letters are great real-world applications.

The Power of Pride

As our students complete assignments, it is important that they take pride in their work. This means checking over work for completeness, working persistently and neatly, and always putting forth one's best efforts. Reinforce these ideas at home as well. The old adage is true; if something is worth doing, it is worth doing well.

The Love of Reading

Encourage your child to read! It's vital that our students practice reading over their summer break. And what better time, to let them read what they want! Reading for pleasure will help students gain a love of reading that they will never lose.

**Don't forget to read.
Visit Panama City's NEW local library.
Read with your child and to your child.
It's a great thing!**