



Holy Cross Catholic School
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May 23, 2024

Dear Crusader Families,

We are excited to once again share a fun and exciting opportunity with you - our *Summer Challenge!* Working with your child throughout the summer will lessen the likelihood of the “summer slide,” which is a phrase used to describe the slide backwards that many children experience in reading and math skills over the summer. You can combat the “summer slide” by encouraging your child to devote a small bit of time each day to keeping up skills. Countless studies show that reading is one of the single most important things a child of any age can do. Reading strengthens vocabulary, exercises the brain, improves concentration, improves language skills, develops imagination, and helps children to develop empathy. That is why we have a specific reading component to our *Summer Challenge*.

The *Holy Cross Catholic School Summer Challenge* has **two requirements** - a reading component and an enrichment component. BOTH components must be completed to meet the challenge. To best meet the needs of each student and your family, we have some flexibility in both components.

Task 1: READING COMPONENT - This can be fulfilled one of two ways, by completing our Summer Challenge Reading Tracker Sheet or by completing your local library’s summer reading program. You must provide proof of one of these options.

Task 2: ENRICHMENT COMPONENT - This can be fulfilled by completing one of the following: Summer Solutions workbook (Be sure to order the *standards-based* option and the grade your child is in *this* year.), summer bridge book (many varieties can be found on Amazon and online), the *Summer Enrichment* found on our website, a packet your child’s teacher may send home, or the IXL summer program. Choose what is best for your child and your family!

All students completing this challenge will receive a dress-down pass good for one dress down per month!

Participation in the *Holy Cross Catholic School Summer Challenge* is optional. We hope you choose to participate and are here to support your family! We know families are busy over the summer. The time commitment for this challenge is about thirty minutes, 4-5 days per week. There are great academic benefits for your child in this challenge. All *Summer Challenge* work must be submitted no later than August 29, 2024! Your child must turn in their completed reading component AND their completed enrichment component!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Betsy Davenport, Principal

Igniting Joyful Christian Discipleship