

To: Rising 6th Grade Families

From: JP Culley, Interim Middle School Director and St. George's Collierville Mathematics Department

Re: ALEKS QuickTables for Summer Math Review

Summer, of course, serves as an opportunity for rest and relaxation. Few things do the body and mind as much good as some "time off." That said, it can also serve as a time for review and reenergizing the mathematical parts of the mind. (We agree that summer reading is not such a bad thing either!)

All students in grades six through twelve at St. George's complete a summer math review. Again this year, rising sixth grade students will be using ALEKS QuickTables for summer review: <http://www.aleks.com/k12/quicktables>.

ALEKS QuickTables is a research-based, math fact mastery tool for multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction that creates learning sequences carefully mixing new and partially mastered problems, gradually moving the learned facts from short-term memory to long-term memory. We are very excited about using QuickTables and believe it will ready students for the academic rigors of sixth grade math. The internet is required. If you are a non-Internet family, please contact the middle school office at 901.457.2110.

Here's how you do it: Online registration for QuickTables will be possible after July 1. Families will be able to access the ALEKS information and registration instructions on the St. George's website (click on Summer Math Packets on the homepage). Use **class code sent previously in a letter mailed**. Once you have registered your student, Ms. Taylor in the Middle School office must authorize the student account. She will be checking the ALEKS site every morning beginning July 1 to see who has registered. Once your child has been authorized, he or she may begin using the program.

During the first session, your child will take a simple typing tutorial followed by a diagnostic test in each of the four basic skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). **Accuracy is very important, so students should take their time.** ALEKS will then create a practice program specific to their needs. Practice can come in several forms. The program itself will create practice sessions based on the results of the diagnostic tests. Once students have practiced traditional facts for 10 minutes, interactive games will be available. Finally, ALEKS offers students the ability to create worksheets based on their individual skill needs, and it provides answers for checking. (Please help us continue to emphasize the importance of checking work. That's a study skill that NEVER goes away!)

If during a practice session a student must quit the program, ALEKS will remember where the student left off and start back at the appropriate place once the session resumes.

The math department recommends that students start with fifteen minute sessions, three times a week. However, the program allows students to practice for up to 30 minutes per day, if desired. As students work over the summer, We will be able to monitor their usage and progress. Students will be tested for the first time on this material within the first two weeks of school. Throughout the first trimester, the sixth grade math teacher will continue to assess students.

Based on our results with students the last couple of years, we continue to be excited about participating in the ALEKS program. If there are technical support questions, please contact: support@aleks.com. If there are other questions, please contact JP Culley (jpculley@sgis.org).



"Assessment Learning in Knowledge Spaces"

Student Registration Instructions

To begin go to www.aleks.com

Click on the "Sign up now" link located just above the "Registered Users" box

Enter the Class Code for the class you are enrolling into: **class code sent previously in a letter mailed.**

Once you have this entered click "Continue"

On the following page verify the class you are enrolling into and then click "Continue"

Enter your information and click "Continue"

Write down your ALEKS login name and password or change your password in the provided boxes and write your new password down. Either way when you are done click "Continue"

Registration is complete. Click "Continue" to check for the ALEKS plugin.

If the plugin is present and current, you will be waiting for teacher authorization which may take up to 24 hours. Once you have been authorized, your account is active and ready for use.

If the plugin is not installed, it will attempt to do so automatically. If you have any trouble with this please note the following or contact support@aleks.com for assistance.

For manual download instructions and links please go to the following web page:

<http://www.aleks.com/downloads>