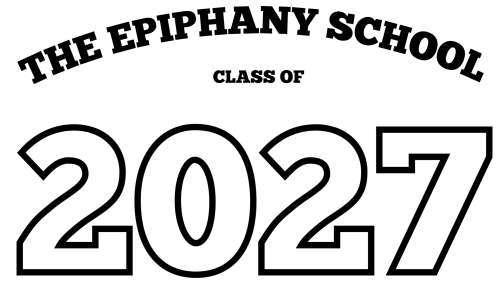


Dear Class of 2027!

We are looking forward to having a wonderful year in 8th Grade! To make sure your ELA and Math skills stay sharp, complete the Reading and Math assignments below. Do your best to read and use your math skills every day this summer!



We can't wait to see you in the fall!
From, Your 8th Grade Teachers

Reading - due Monday, September 14, 2026

Aim to read 1,200 minutes this summer! Read 20 minutes each day for 60 days and you'll reach your goal. All students entering 8th grade are required to read *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt, and the rest of the books are up to you!

While reading *The Wednesday Wars*, please gather evidence from the text by placing a post-it note on the pages that you think will help you respond to the questions below. Save your notes! They will help you to complete a project on *The Wednesday Wars* in September.

1. How does Holling relate the Shakespearean plays he reads to his own life? *Hint: Find quotes that affect Holling deeply and directly reference Shakespeare's plays/characters.
2. Holling states, "When gods die, they die hard" (Schmidt 93). What "gods" or idols "die" throughout the book?
3. Does the author do a good job describing the problems faced by seventh-graders (friendship, bullying, parents, siblings, teacher expectations)?
4. In what ways does Holling grow by the end of the book? What does he learn? How does he change?

Please use this [book log](#) to help you keep track of all the titles you read this summer. The book log is due on the first Monday of the new school year - September 14, 2026. Remember to use neat handwriting and write your name. Happy reading!

Math - due Monday, September 14, 2026

IXL Summer Boost **OR** Khan Academy's Get Ready for 8th Grade/Algebra 1

You can choose IXL Summer Boost Skills Plan or Khan Academy to review the concepts learned in 7th grade Math and help prepare you for Math 8 or Math 9. Be certain to choose the correct program from the math class you will be entering in September 2026.

Accessing IXL Summer Boost Skill Plans

With 5 skill sets per week, for 4 weeks, you'll complete 20 Math skills by the end of the summer.

1. Use the IXL app or website - www.ixl.com
2. **Log in to your Epiphany account!** You must do this for your teacher to see your completed work
 - Username = first initial last name graduation year@archnewyork
Ex: Jane Smith, Epiphany Class of 2027 = username: jsmith27@archnewyork
 - Password = epiphany
 - **You will see "Welcome, [Your Name]!" in the upper right corner if you are logged in properly**
 - Contact Ms. O'Keefe if you have problems logging in: kokeefe@theepiphanyschool.org
3. Go to the Summer Boost Skill Plan (website directions)
 - After you are logged in click Learning at the top of the page, followed by selecting Math.
 - In the menu directly beneath the list of subjects, click Skill plans.
 - You will see the Summer Boost skill plan. Select the grade you are entering this fall.
 - The Summer Boost Skill Plans can also be accessed directly for [Math 8](#) and [Math 9](#). **Be sure to login to your account before you start working!**
4. You are **not** required to reach a SmartScore of 100. Do your best and complete a minimum of 20 problems in each skill set.

Accessing Khan Academy Get Ready for 8th Grade/Algebra 1

1. Use the Khan Academy app or website - www.khanacademy.org
2. **Log in to your Epiphany account using Google (your school email)!** You must do this for your teacher to see your completed work
 - Contact Ms. O'Keefe if you have problems logging in: kokeefe@theepiphanyschool.org
3. Go to the Get Ready for 8th Grade/Algebra 1 (website directions)
 - After you are logged in, click Course at the top of the page, followed by Math: Get Ready Courses. Select the math class you are entering this fall.
 - Complete each unit by watching the videos, and completing practice exercises, unit quizzes, and unit tests.
 - *Optional:* Complete the Course Challenge.
 - Get ready for 8th Grade and Get Ready for Algebra 1 can also be accessed directly for [Math 8](#) and [Math 9](#). **Be sure to login to your account before you start working!**
4. You are **not** required to reach a score of 100 for each exercise, quiz, and test. Do your best and complete a minimum of 75 percent each.

8th GRADE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

For Your Student	Optional for the Classroom
2 Yellow Highlighters, chisel tip	2 boxes of Facial Tissues
1 pair Scissors, 5", Pointed Tip	1 box Disinfecting Wipes, bleach-free
2 dozen #2 Pencils with Eraser, Sharpened (keep 1 dozen at home)	1 Hand Sanitizer with pump dispenser
1 Pencil Sharpener, Dbl Barrel, Canister	
2 large Pink Erasers	
1 dozen Pencil Cap Erasers	
2 dozen Ballpoint Pens, blue or black ink (keep 1 dozen at home)	
2 Ballpoint Pens, green ink	
1 pair Wired Headphones/Earbuds with Case. 3.5mm plug	
3 Book Sox, Jumbo size, assorted colors	
1 Pencil Case, 3-hole grommets, 10"x7"	
2 Expanding File Folder system, letter size (keep 1 at home)	
12 inch Ruler with inch and cm, clear plastic	

Summer Resources

- Summer Reading Book Ideas
 - Epiphany Blue Jay Book Battle [2024](#), [2025](#), and [2026](#) Lists - recommendations from Epiphany's 4th-8th Grade Students
 - American Library Association: [Grades 6-8](#)
 - [Common Sense Media](#) - Search books by age and read reviews by fellow parents
 - [Lexile - Find A Book](#) - Search books by reading level and topic of interest
 - NYPL Staff Picks - [Kids](#) and [Teens](#)
 - [Scholastic](#) - Book recommendations by age
 - Amazon [Teachers' Pick](#) - Reading recommendations by grade

- More Learning & Fun!
 - [Math Fact Fluency Games](#) - Directions for simple math fact games using dice and cards.
 - [Math Playground](#) - Free math games by grade level and topic
 - [Let Grow Challenge](#) - Challenge yourself to develop new skills, confidence, and independence.
 - [IXL Summer Adventures](#) - Explore topics with skills across all IXL subjects, organized around a fun theme for each day. IXL Summer Adventures are Optional and do not replace required summer assignments.
 - New York Public Library [Summer 2026 Programs for Kids and Teens](#); [Free Library Card](#)