

6/8 OT Parent Letter

I can't believe we are already in our last, full week of school. What a ride this time of remote learning has been. I don't know what the fall will look like, but I know that if we have to do more remote learning at some point in the fall, we will be more ready to get back on track.

Some of your children are signed up for summer school. Whether it is online or in the Jacobs school, the OT for the summer is Bridgett Lawson, who currently works with students in preschool, kindergarten, and first grade. Many of your children may already know her. She also did summer school last year.

Even if your child is not receiving OT services over the summer there are a lot of ways to keep up skills. I have given you all kinds of activities that help build skills through play. I posted all my letters on the school website on my webpage so you can always look there for ideas. Keeping up handwriting practice is also important. If your child has their Handwriting Without Tears book, have them work on their book. Make sure that they are following the correct direction when making their letters and numbers. Some other fun ways to keep up skills are:

- Have your child pick out a notebook that they will use as their writing journal. They can decorate it with pictures, stickers, or drawings. In the journal have them write at least one sentence about their day. Check that they capitalize and punctuate. Ask them about what they wrote about and why.
- When it is time to go grocery shopping ask them to help you make up the list. They are your special shopping list maker. Have them write down what you need. Not only is this great practice, they feel they are contributing to their family.
- Write on the beach. The roughness of the sand will help with building muscle memory for letter and number formation. They can also make letters and words with shells and rocks.
- Write with chalk on the driveway. The tactile feel of the chalk moving on the cement or tar surface will build muscle memory.

- Make cards for family, friends, first responders, and essential workers. Kids love making cards and that feeling of having them appreciated is priceless.
- Mad Libs. Kids love Mad Libs. Mad Libs also help kids learn what a noun, verb, pronoun, adjective, and adverb are.
- Have your child go through the grocery flyer and **highlight** letter **b** and **circle** letter **d** to build awareness of letter direction.

This week have your children continue to do at least two pages in their HWT book. For fourth graders, I am sending you out a page to print if you do not have a book.

Stay healthy everyone and have a great field day Friday.
Ms. Faherty OT