On Friday, October 24th all students were treated to a concert put on by *Shades*, a music group from Yale University. The group performed music of the African Diaspora and African-American tradition. The concert was put together by our music teacher, Mrs. Helen Smith, and featured former Forest School student Abdul-Razak Zachariah. To read about how music helps kids do better in math, see Page 2.

**MANIPULATIVES IN MATH**

Students use various manipulatives\(^1\) to help develop number sense. Here, Grade 1 students are using counters to show different ‘groups’ for addition. Students in K also use a ‘hundreds’ chart to help count and learn their numbers.

\(^1\)Manipulatives are any concrete object that allows students to explore an idea in an active, hands-on approach.

**K-4 Current Units of Study**

- **K – Unit 3:** Counting and Matching Numbers 11-20
- **First – Unit 2:** Addition and Subtraction Within 20
- **Second- Finishing Unit 2:** Place Value to 1,000. Starting **Unit 3:** Fluency with Addition and Subtraction within 100.
- **Third – Unit 2:** Connecting and Using Multiplication and Division
- **Fourth – Finishing Unit 2:** Understanding and Using Place Value to Multiply and Divide. Starting **Unit 3:** Multi-Digit Whole Number Computation
Can Music EXPAND YOUR BRAIN?

We all enjoy music. But did you know that by studying music and/or learning to play an instrument can dramatically improve how you do in school? There are lots and lots of studies that have proven this. Here is a small sample of some of the results:

- Music raises your IQ.
- Music reduces the academic gap between rich and poor districts.
- Music training does more than sports, theater or dance to improve key academic skills.
- Music helps children’s abstract learning and special intelligence.
- Music improves children’s ability to understand fractions.
- Children who learn music tend to score higher on the SAT’s.
- Music increases the children’s ability to think creatively.
- Academic scores average 20-40% higher with music education.
- Music helps certain parts of the brain develop more thoroughly.

There is MUCH, MUCH more info on How music helps you to do better in school. For more information and access to some research articles, see my webpage at:

forest.whschools.org

Sources: supportTML.org and A Musical Fix for American Schools by Joanne Lipman

Math Riddles!!
(Answer next newsletter)

I am an odd number. Take away one letter and I become even. What number am I?

Last Month’s Riddle: Where do fish keep their money: (in a River Bank)

Kids’ Corner

Burwell Bucks?

Any student who visits my web page during the month of November AND ANSWERS MY MATH PUZZLE will receive 2 Burwell Bucks.

⇒ Visit my webpage at forest.whschools.org
⇒ Click on Faculty and Staff at the top-right.
⇒ Select Teacher Webpages
⇒ Look down the list and click on my name.

When you get there, solve my math puzzle. Tell it to me and I’ll give you 2 Burwell Bucks. Good Luck!