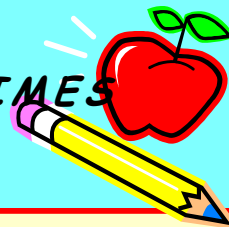


THE NUMERICAL TIMES



West Haven Public Schools
West Haven, CT
www.whschools.org

October 2014
Forest School Edition

Happy Fall!



Sorting and Grouping with Halloween Candy

This Halloween, why not practice a little math! Try these simple tasks when the kids come home from Trick-or-Treating.

- Spread out the candy on the table.
- Put into groups, for example, put all the snickers together, etc.
- For younger children, have them count each group. Also, have them tell which group has the most, least?
- For older children, have them count, but tell which fraction of candy the snickers are.
- Ask questions like, *how many more M&M's are there than Reese's?* If you add the Reese's to the M&M's, *how many are all together?*



MATH IN ACTION:



Students in grades K, 2, and 4 are all working on fact strategies using various manipulatives and xtrmath.com. Research shows that going from counting to memorization of math facts boosts math skills. [For more info, see page 2.](#)

K-4 Current Units of Study

K – Unit 2: Counting and Matching Numbers 6-10 with Comparing

First – Finishing Unit 1: Addition and Subtraction Within 10
Starting Unit 2: Addition and Subtraction Within 20

Second- Finishing Unit 1: Fact Strategies
Starting Unit 2: Place Value to 1,000

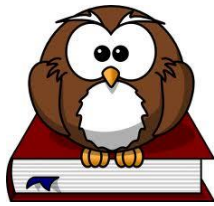
Third – Unit 1: Understanding Multiplication and Division
Starting Unit 2: Connecting and Using Multiplication and Division

Fourth - Unit 2: Understanding and Using Place Value to Multiply and Divide

Jason Heffernan
Math Coach, Forest School

Jason.Heffernan@whschools.org





Coaches Corner

This section will feature news and fun stuff just for kids, so make sure you check it out!



Want Burwell Bucks?

Any student who visits my web page during the month of October will receive 2 Burwell Bucks.

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

When you get there, find my favorite number. Tell it to me and I'll give you 2 Burwell Bucks. Good Luck !

Math Riddles!!

(Answer next newsletter)

Where do fish keep their money?

**Last Week's Riddle: What has a face and two hands but no arms or legs?
(A clock)**

Get to know "The Facts"



A recent article that appeared in the *New Haven Register* by AP reporter Lauran Neergaard talked about the importance about children learning their math facts. The research was done by Kathy Mann Koepke of the National Institute of Health. Here are a few things she says:

- "Children start to transition from counting to 'fact retrieval' when they are about 8-9 years old."
- Counting relies on the frontal portions of the brain, whereas fact retrieval comes from the memory part of the brain. As children's brains are still growing and developing, memorization helps to develop these connections.
- Practicing fact retrieval makes the brain more efficient, thus freeing it up to focus on other things. In other words, "It has more working memory free to process the teacher's brand new lesson on more complex math."
- Lastly, "How well children make the shift to memory based problem solving is known to predict their ultimate math achievement."

To read the full article, go to my webpage at forest.whschools.org

