

School Logo

Dear parents,

Your child started this week by taking the first assessment of the year. This assessment covered addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, remainders, order of operations, large numbers, rounding, story problems involving money and comparisons, and solving magic square and number puzzles. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please let me know.

Then your child learned or reviewed how to appropriately use the drawing tools to draw horizontal lines, vertical lines, and diagonal lines. Teaching geometry with a drawing board, T-square, and triangles helps the child learn the informal, practical side of geometry. It also helps develop coordination, which will improve with practice. The class enjoyed working with the drawing tools. The highlight of the week was to demonstrate their knowledge by drawing a star inside a hexagon.

We ended the week with a review of basic fractions, which is the beginning of a longer unit study on fractions. Your child learned that fractions are division problems. For example, $\frac{1}{2}$ is the same as one divided by two. The concept of fractions as division is fundamental to algebra. Your child reviewed unit fractions. Unit fractions have a 1 in the numerator, such as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, etc. They also learned about non-unit fractions. A non-unit fraction has a number other than 1 in the numerator, such as $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{5}{8}$, $\frac{3}{5}$, etc.

Fun activities at home:

- Using a straight-edge or T-square, have your child demonstrate drawing horizontal, vertical, and diagonal lines
- Have your child explain the difference between a unit fraction and a non-unit fraction
- Ask your child to tell you another name for two divided by three ($\frac{2}{3}$) and three divided by five ($\frac{3}{5}$)

Games we played/to play at home:

- Ring Around the Products game (P32)
- Quotient and Remainder game (D7)
- Concentrating on One game (F3)

Next week, your child will learn about equivalent fractions and make halves of halves. They will also find fractions that are close to zero, one half, and one. Finally, they will sketch fractions and shade segments within a rectangle.

Have a lovely day!

Teacher Name