

# NEWSLETTER

**“ENCOURAGING MATHEMATICAL THINKING USING INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES ALLOWS STUDENTS A CONCEPTUAL AND CONCRETE RELATIONSHIP WITH MATH”**

## ***Math Inside and Outside of the Classroom!***

**MRS. SARA HEDLUND**

Often times we, as teachers and parents, get caught up in the black and white of math-- the workbook or the worksheet with the traditional problems: 4 times 4 equals 16, 72 divided by 9 equals 8, etc. I think we, however, need to support children's mathematical thinking outside of these norms.

Encouraging mathematical thinking using innovative techniques allows students a conceptual and concrete relationship with math. Real world application is a powerful tool.

This type of learning provides students with a purpose and setting for the skills and concepts they are learning. In our classroom, we are working in small group rotations to attack math from all different "angles"-- no pun intended.

**Miss Jolise** facilitates a small group of students who are independently working in their workbooks. Students are able to identify areas they are struggling with by asking for specific support in mastery concepts.

**Mrs. Beck** works to bring hands on learning to students by attaching interactive learning concepts using the math lessons that are being focused on that week.

**Mrs. Hedlund** uses real world learning experiences by working with Freckle and Horizons curriculum to enhance conceptual learning.



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Here are some additional applications parents can use outside of the classroom to help students to engage in math learning:

- Baking: This is great time to use shapes, geometry, fractions, and ratios as well as patterns and degrees
- Traveling: Have your child map the miles/distance and time it takes to get from home to the store
- Park Play: Have students walk the perimeter of the park and have them count the steps. Ask about the angle of the slides or shapes of the equipment
- Grocery Shopping: Have students manage the budget, work on making change, or create a list of items based of price comparison.

Looking at math in applicable concepts outside of the school day will help to build a student's confidence. This will improve their skills. Make math a game.

Ask them to teach you how to solve an equation. Math is everywhere! This real-life application will build excitement that will be reflected in their work at school.



### **Student Motto**

**“I am safe, I am loved, and I am capable of learning”**

2 Timothy 1:7

