Grade 1 – Unit 1

Welcome to first grade math! We are beginning Unit 1: Fluency with Addition and Subtraction within 20. In this unit students will establish classroom routines including turn and talk and think-pair-share. They will justify their reasoning, and construct viable arguments. Students will analyze and construct graphs using surveys. Students will compose (put together) and decompose (break apart) combinations of ten using a variety of tools (math racks, ten frames, counting cubes). They will do a series of investigations that explore doubles and near doubles, and will use models and equations to represent their thinking. They will play several games to develop and reinforce strategies for addition and subtraction.

Some examples of the work your child will be doing are:

* Students will skip count to add.
* Students will develop an understanding of equivalence.
* Example: Does 4 + 4 = 5 + 3? Does 4 + 1 = 3 + 3? How do you know?
* Students will determine the unknown number that makes the equation true.
* Example: 5 + \_\_\_\_= 9 \_\_\_\_+ 6 = 10 \_\_\_\_-3 = 4
* Students will use the doubles and near doubles facts to help them solve related problems.
* Example: 4 + 4 = 8 so 4 + 5 = (4 + 4) + 1 = 9
* Students will compose and decompose numbers through 10 using algebraic properties.

Examples:

* Commutative Property: 3+ 5 = 5 + 3
* Associative Property: 2 + 5 + 3 = (2 + 3) + 5
* Finding all the combinations for a particular sum.
* Investigating the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction: 4 + 5 = 9 and 9 – 5 = 4
* Students will analyze graphs and construct graphs using a survey.

Here is how you can help your child while our class is working on this unit:

* Practice basic addition and subtraction facts.
* Point out graphs in the real world and discuss how they show information/data.
* Play games that reinforce addition and subtraction strategies.
* Reinforce strategies that help your child think flexibly about numbers. Encourage them to think about how to compose and decompose numbers.
* Encourage your child to explain her/his thinking as she/he solves problems.

If you have any questions, please contact your child’s teacher or the Math Science Teacher.

For additional information, take a look at the Fairfield Public School Parent Guide at <http://fairfieldpublicschoolsk5math.wikispaces.com/home>