Kindergarten – Unit 3 Parent Letter

We are beginning Unit 3: Counting and Matching Numerals 6-10 with Comparing. The purpose of this unit is to develop an understanding of quantity and number. Students will work with a variety of math manipulatives to count and match numbers through 10 and to compare sets of objects. Tools and models introduced in this unit will build on the five structure to develop an understanding of the ten structure in our number system. Students will build and write equations and tell stories based on equations. They will explore equivalence and think about numbers being represented in a variety of ways (8 = 3 + 5 and also 4 + 4). Students will practice writing numbers 7-10 and develop strategies to determine more, less, and same.

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

* Students will use tools such as the math rack and ten-frame to explore numbers.

-Example:

5 + 2 = 7

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* Students will recognize that a number can be composed ( numbers put together) in a variety of ways.
* Example:

4+ 3 = 7 and 5 + 2 = 7

* Students will use pictures and manipulatives to compare numbers and understand more, less and the same.
* Students will begin to explore the idea of conservation of number which means the number of objects in a set remains the same regardless of the arrangement of the set.

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

* Continue to count objects with your child. Practice counting groups with up to ten objects in them, for instance 8 cups or 6 coats.
* Encourage your child to notice that groups of objects can be decomposed (broken into) smaller groups. For instance, the 6 paper cups can be separated into groups of 4 cups and 2 cups OR 3 cups and 3 cups.
* Provide opportunities for your child to collect and count objects. This can be done in your house or outside. For instance, collect acorns, stones, or leaves in your yard or on a hike. Students can sort the objects into like groups and count how many objects are in each group.
* Read counting books with your child or make a game out of counting how many characters are on a page.
* Any games, board games, or invented games that involve counting are a good way to practice counting.

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>