Kindergarten – Unit 4 Parent Letter

We are beginning Unit 4: Comparing and Writing Numbers 11-30. The purpose of this unit is to develop an understanding teen numbers using benchmark numbers 5 and 10 to count and match numerals through 20. They will use these benchmark numbers to compose (put together) and decompose (break apart) numbers. Students will develop foundational place value concepts as they build numbers using a group of ten and some ones.

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

* Seeing a group of ten as a unit is the underpinnings for place value. It is a very sophisticated idea as it requires students to hold onto two quantities simultaneously, the number of ones in a group (10) and the number of groups, i.e.

 two groups of ten. It also requires the child to understand that “1” can have more than one meaning, i.e. 1 as a single unit and 1 as a group of single units.

Make 10 and 1

* Students will understand teen numbers as a group of ten and some more.
* Students can compose and decompose numbers. (12 is 10 plus 2 more).

**12**

* Students will learn that the position of a digit determines its value. The 2 in 23 is a 20 or two groups of ten.
* Students will count-on from the benchmark number of 10.

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

* Look through a store ad for the numbers 0-20. Cut them out and order them from least to greatest.
* Use a popsicle stick to represent a ten and beans to represent ones. Represent 13, 16, 17, 19 etc. using the popsicle sticks and the beans.
* Using a deck of cards, give your child a 10 card, and draw another number card, then add the numbers together and show the number with sticks and beans.
* Walk heal-to-toe from one end of the kitchen to the other and count the steps. Show how many steps were taken with beans. Then circle or group the beans into groups of ten and some loose and identity the number.
* Play a game of counting forward and backward to and from ten, twenty, thirty, and start from any number within 20.
* Read counting books with your child.

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>