

## Middle School Math

Spring is here and students are encouraged to stay focused, complete assignments and continue to work hard until summer break starts. Our students have become very proficient and there is no reason to doubt with their continued effort, this last Math quarter will be as successful as the first three.

We celebrated Pi Day, March 14<sup>th</sup>, discussing what Pi is and how it has been calculated to 31 trillion decimal places. Students determined writing Pi to that many decimal places would require 48,282,994 miles, nearly the mean distance between Earth and Mars. Expressing Pi as 3.14 is much easier to write.

**Grade 6** - We completed Chapter 5, **Integers**, in which students gained a better understanding of integers and how they apply to real-life situations such as the rise and fall of temperature. Students increased their conceptual and computational skills related to evaluating mathematical expressions, solving equations, applying order of operations and solving word-problems involving integers. We have jumped forward to Chapter 9, **Data & Statistics**, where students will learn how to gather, record, organize, and present statistical data. Our study of data & statistics concludes with students conducting a statistical analysis of the color distribution of candy in a 2.17 oz. bag of Skittles.

**Grade 7** - Students completed their study of Chapter 4, **Rational Numbers-Decimals**, which included topics like; forms of rational numbers, equivalent forms, decimal number operations, negative exponents, scientific notation operations and solving multi-step decimal algebraic equations. We are now nearing completion of Chapter 5, **Rational Numbers-Fractions**. Students learned how to find the sum, differences, products, and quotients of fractions and mixed numbers. They also learned how to apply these skills to solving algebraic expressions and word problems containing fractions.

During our Math practicum enrichment period, we continue to learn about the interrelationship of **STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines. Students collaborating with partners use Microsoft's online MakeCode block coding application, an AdaFruit Circuit Playground Express circuit board and their personal mobile devices to plan, create, and test software code. Students have quickly learned the importance of working together with partners to engineer solutions with the available computing technology.



### Foreign Language

**SPANISH:** Kindergarten, Grades 1 & 2 have learned the names of family members and they had fun with many activities. They also worked on exploring the world of animals and their names in Spanish.

**FRENCH:** Grades 4 and 5 are working on the present tense of action verbs. They are now able to create more sentences. Grade 3 is now focusing on the nouns in their singular and plural forms as well as articles in singular and plural forms.

**LATIN:** Grades 6 and 7 learned about typical Roman houses, the names of the rooms in them as well as their use. They worked hard in recreating samples of rooms and they did a great job presenting them to the other students.