



A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Last week's newsletter highlighted how our community can come together to foster a love of reading among our students. I believe that discovering the joy of reading is the crucial first step, so I encourage you to seek out stories that truly engage them.

This week, I am turning my attention to basic math facts. Mastery of these facts is essential as students progress into higher levels of math. If they reach Algebra and Geometry while struggling with fact recall, many may find it challenging to understand the concepts in later math courses. Typically, first graders master basic addition facts, while second graders master subtraction and begin memorizing multiplication facts. Once multiplication is mastered in third grade, students then tackle division and fraction simplification in fourth and fifth grades.

This year, in our K-5 program, we have introduced daily Math Minutes. This initiative has been around since the 1980s, and I even used it during my first year of teaching. Although it is timed, our primary focus is on helping students enhance their automaticity with math facts. Please support us at home by incorporating games, flashcards, and quizzing your students.

On Friday the teachers have a professional development day, so there is no school for students. We hope you enjoy the last day of summer and that along with the weather we can transition to Fall, my favorite season.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

No School (Professional Development)	September 20
Primary (K-2) Parent Coffee with the Principal	September 25 8:00 am, Grammar School Commons
Family Fun Movie Night - Prize night from Mustang Mini Marathon	September 26 6:00 - 8:00, Addenbrooke Field
Middle School (Spring Semester 23) Honor Roll Trip	September 27
October Count Day	October 1
PreK-8th Grade Picture Day (wear red polos)	October 1
Grammar School Conferences (sign-up genius to schedule time)	October 1-16
Dad's Book Club	October 2 7:45 - 8:15 am, Library
K-5, Staff vs. Student Dodgeball Games (\$20 to participate, register ahead of time)	October 3 1:30 - 2:15, K-2 vs. Staff 2:30 - 3:10, 3-5 vs. Staff
K-8 Assembly (1st and 4th Recitation)	October 4 8:10 am, Gym

CAMPUS REMINDERS AND SAFETY

- **Please no dogs on campus.** We have several students that are afraid and/or allergic to dogs. There have been several dogs on the sidewalks around camps. We have a few special occasions that we allow dogs on campus, but these are pre-approved by the administration.
- **No left hand turn out of the soccer lot from 7:15 - 8:00 am or 2:30 - 4:00 pm.** This is for safety reasons. We also ask that unless you have a meeting or purpose to be on campus that you use the car-line and not park. We want to reserve the parking in the main lot for our preschool parents that are required to come and park to pick up and drop-off their children.
- **Please don't park if you don't have to or arrive in for car-line prior to 2:50.** If you come early to park in the lane and it is impossible for cars to get into the parking lot by going around the proper way this makes it impossible for the preschool parents to be on time for their pick-up. Please don't come and wait in the car-line or parking lot before 2:50. School is out at 3:05 and that should give you plenty of time to get situated with out blocking the drive.



HANDWORK

""The child is only truly educated who can use his hands as truly as his head, for to neglect one part of our being injures the whole, and the learned book-worm who is ignorant of the uses of a screwdriver, also lacks that readiness and resourcefulness, mental neatness and capability, and reverence for labour and its results, which a knowledge of practical matter gives."

~Charlotte Mason

Handwork has many purposes for students, including:

- Sense of accomplishment: Handwork can give students a sense of accomplishment and balance to their education.
- Concentration: Handwork can help students build concentration, which can be applied to other tasks like writing, research, or multiplication.
- Motor skills: Handwork can help develop fine motor skills, eye-hand coordination, and precision.
- Creativity: Handwork can help develop creativity.
- Understanding of cause and effect: Handwork can help students develop an understanding of cause and effect.
- Mathematical awareness: Handwork can help students develop mathematical awareness through counting stitches and rows.
- Sense of self-sustenance: Handwork can help students develop a sense of self-sustenance.
- Sense of belonging: Handwork can help students develop a sense of belonging and efficacy.
- Ethical decision making: Handwork can help students develop the ability to make principled and ethical decisions.

6 WAYS TO HELP STUDENT LEARN MATH FACTS

- Write them out. This is a basic exercise but there's no reason why it can't be effective. It works especially well for kids who are confident with handwriting. To add a sensory element, you can have them trace numbers and equations in the sand or on a foggy car window. This is a great way to practice on the go and the novelty can make a traditional drill like this feel more fun.
- Make use of magnetic numbers. Another tactile way of practicing math facts is with magnetic numbers. You can also use foam numbers on a wet surface or have them arrange wooden numbers on a table.
- Say them aloud. Reciting math facts aloud is a great way to commit them to memory, especially for students who are auditory learners or those who struggle with processing visual information. Rehearse facts while on the go, in the shower or even at the supermarket can make for an engaging approach.
- Type them out. For kids who struggle with handwriting, and/or speech production, touch-typing is often an effective approach for practicing newly learned information.
- Show them on a calculator. You can play a calculator game where a learner is given a sheet of facts to enter and must guess before confirming their answer on the calculator.
- Arrange objects on a flat surface. From food to buttons, recreating math facts this way can help visual and tactile learners commit them to memory. Mixing up the order in which students learn and practice facts is important. It's also good to allow learners a measure of creativity in an otherwise rote-learning task. You might get them to create their own rhyme or song, such as three little birds sat on a wall, two flew away and then there was one. Many nursery rhymes use this tactic to teach math but it's always fun to give kids a chance to write their own.

<https://www.readandspell.com/us/teaching-math-facts>

AUTHOR VISIT

Today students in the K-5 were treated to an author visit. Author Kentrell Martin came in and taught a few ASL signs and read one of his books to the students. The interactive event was a highlight for the kids and hopefully they can share some of the signs they learned with you tonight.

YEARBOOK COVER

Students are invited to submit a yearbook cover to Mrs. Spencer by October 4th. The theme for this year's yearbook is ITS ABOUT TIME (to celebrate the 10th anniversary of being in this building). The cover must include: Addenbrooke Classical Academy K-8 and 2024-2025. Entries must be on 8 1/2 by 11 paper with the name of the student who created it and their homeroom teacher.

Guest Author September 19th!

What is The Shelly's Adventure's Experience? The Shelly's Adventure's Experience is a presentation brought to you by award-winning author Kentrell Martin.

During the experience, students will be part of an interactive book reading and learn over 30 signs in American Sign Language.

Students also have an opportunity to purchase an autographed book(s).

[link to website](#)

Who is Kentrell Martin? Kentrell Martin is the creator of the award-winning Shelly's Adventures children's book series. He has visited over 1000 schools and is known globally for his educational, interactive and fun-filled presentations that incorporate ASL.



MUSTANG SPORTS

9/21

- 4:00pm Cross Country: Middle School Meet vs. Northfield @ TBA

9/24

- 4:30pm Soccer: Boys Middle School League vs. DSST: College View @ Riverside Soccer Fields

9/25

- 4:30pm Soccer: Boys Middle School League vs. Kipp Sunshine Peak Academy @ Addenbrooke Classical Academy
- 5:30pm Volleyball: Girls Middle School League vs. DSST: College View @ KIPP Sunshine Middle School



FREE TUTORS

Lockheed Martin is available
to help every Tuesday!

When: Tuesdays 6:00pm-7:00 pm

Where: ACA High School
(3rd grade-12th grade)

- o No sign-up necessary, drop-ins welcome
- o Please arrive no later than 6:30
- o Remember your Chromebook/ needed materials (math book)

Tutors can help with:
Homework: Math/Science
Test Preparation

Fall Dates:
September 24
October 1
October 8
October 15
October 22

October 29
November 5
November 12
November 19
December 3
December 10



INTEREST SURVEY

We are considering having a middle school boys volleyball team in the Spring. If your child would be interested in this please fill out the survey linked here: [Boys' Volleyball Survey](#).

PICTURE DAY COMING SOON

Please see the flyer attached. If the link in this newsletter doesn't work please try the flyer attachment.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PROVIDED
PACS SNACKS AND HELPED WITH THE
MUSTANG MINI MARATHON AND COLOR RUN**

PICTURE DAY IS COMING!
SE ACERCA EL DIA DE LA FOTO

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