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|  | **Alta Vista Elementary…** **A look at What your Child is learning in math class!** | October 2016 |
| ISSUE 2 |
| **Kindergarten** | **1st Grade** |
| Our Kindergarteners have been learning to count with meaning from numbers 0 to 10. They have also been working on developing a deep understanding of these numbers and their values. Kindergarten students are practicing representing numbers 0 to 10 in a variety of ways including modeling with manipulatives, drawings, and abstractly with written digits. Students will also be working with comparison of these numbers to determine which one is greater than and which one is less. At home, parents can help by providing opportunities for students to count out a given number of objects from a group. To assist with comparing numbers, parents should ensure that students are able to not only match objects in two groups to see if there is any extra but should also be able to identify which is greater when using written digits from 0-10. | Grade 1 students are developing an understanding of strategies that are used to add and subtract. Students will explore numerous strategies including counting on, making a ten, creating equivalent but easier or known sums and decomposing (breaking apart) a number leading to a ten. During this time, students also learn to represent and solve addition word problems that involve three whole numbers. At home, parents can help first graders by practicing the addition and subtraction strategies being taught at school, focusing on adding and subtracting smaller numbers within 20 so that the focus is on the strategies and not on the computation.  |
| **2nd Grade** | **3rd Grade** |
| Grade 2 students have moved on to fluently adding and subtracting within 20. Fluency with single-digit addition and subtraction is essential for students as they progress through the other elementary grades. The word fluent means fast, accurate, and involves a mixture of memorization, using number patterns and using multiple strategies. Students build a strong foundation in single-digit addition by exploring the relationship between addition and equal groups of objects. This exploration is fundamental to the multiplication and division concepts they will be learning in grade 3. At home, parents can help students with math fact fluency by providing opportunities for students to practice timed math fact drills. There are many free math timed online drills. One such drill can be found at http://arithmetic.zetamac.com. | Grade 3 students have been working on using multiplication to solve two-step word problems. Students have been learning how to fluently multiply within 100 and how to multiply one-digit whole numbers by multiples of 10. During this time, third grade students will also transition to using division and its properties to solve two-step word. Students will have multiple opportunities to fluently divide within 100. By the end of grade 3, students should know from memory all products of two one-digit numbers. Outside of school, parents can help their children learn their multiplication facts by providing opportunities to practice timed drills. There are many free math timed online drills. One such drill can be found at http://arithmetic.zetamac.com. |
| **4th Grade** | **5th Grade** |
| Our Grade 4 students have been hard at work learning all about multi-digit multiplication. They have expanded their knowledge from last year to include multiplying whole numbers of up to four digits by one-digit whole numbers. They have also learned how to multiply two two-digit numbers. Our fourth grade mathematicians are now transitioning into multi-digit division. Throughout October, students will learn how to divide four-digit whole numbers by one-digit whole numbers. They will also explore the world or remainders in division, specifically being able to interpret remainders. Students will be provided with many opportunities outside of the classroom to practice multi-digit division. Parents can help their children at home by making sure that this homework is being completed and submitted in a timely manner.  | Grade 5 students have been eagerly performing multi-digit division of four-digit numbers by two-digit numbers. They have learned how to apply the knowledge they gained in grade 4 to the standard algorithm for division. Throughout the next two months, fifth graders will be exploring the world of fractions. They will begin their exploration by solving word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions with like and unlike denominators, including mixed numbers. Parents can help solidify their children’s understanding of fractions by highlighting the use of fractions within their daily lives. For example, using fractions in the kitchen when following a recipe and using fractions in building construction and home improvements.  |