

DEL MAR MATH NEWS

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NOVEMBER + DECEMBER = THE GIFT OF MATH!

Math is Not a Spectator Sport!

Math is different than any other subject. It's objective, employs specific procedures, involves symbols and formulas, and it has a vocabulary all of its own. Consequently, the study skills you need to succeed in math are also unique.

In order to learn mathematics you must be actively involved in the learning process. You've got to attend class and pay attention while in class. You've got to take a good set of notes. You need to work homework problems and check in with your teacher when you do not understand something. You must study on a regular schedule, not just the night before exams. In other words you need to be consistently involved in the learning process. As a courtesy, the math department creates and provides study guides to assist in this process. The week prior to exams, we will also provide a link to practice problems should a child want additional practice. Look for the link on our homework calendars.

A Season for Giving

Knowing basic math facts, or number combinations, helps build a strong mathematical foundation. To be proficient in math, students must know all multiplication facts through ten instantly. Research supports the theory that math games can help children gain automaticity with math facts. So, with the holiday gift-giving season upon us, consider FLASH CARDS or a math game that might help your child be more proficient with their math facts.

Many games, though not labeled specifically as math, can help students to practice strategic thinking and problem solving. Another great gift idea is a scientific calculator. (At least it's better than a lump of coal!) It is an important and valuable tool for our students to possess.

UPCOMING "Stuff" and FYI:

Math Club: Thursday Mornings in the CyberLounge.

MAP Testing: Dec. 13/14 during math class.

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress), is a computerized adaptive test which improves learning for all students by helping teachers to make informed decisions to promote a child's academic growth. Many of you have likely used a growth chart in your home to show how much your child has grown from one year to the next. MAP results are used by teachers to similarly track your child's academic progress/growth.

Last day of school 2016: Dec. 22

First day of school 2017: Jan. 9

Have a happy & safe holiday season!

Parent Tip #3 for Helping your Child with Math

A great "attitude" about math starts at home. Avoid saying things like "I was no good at math" or "the math gene skipped me."

We'd never boast, "I can't read."

- It's silly!

-Encourage & promote risk-taking!

-Be a cheerleader to best foster a love for MATHEMATICS!

-Celebrate perseverance and effort (a growth mind-set!)

Model math enthusiasm and it will be contagious!

