 September 2017

**Math in Focus**

*Math in Focus* provides an authentic Singapore math curriculum-highlighting problem solving as the focus of mathematic learning. MIF teaches concepts using a concrete-pictoral-abstract learning progression to anchor learning in real-world, hands-on experiences, supported by seamless integration of technology with the use of Interactive Whiteboard activities, online student activities, and online manipulatives.

One thing that is important to note is that we are teaching skills by topic or unit, not necessarily by chapter. While most of each topic will come from the same chapter, you will notice that parts of other chapters may be mixed in to provide complete coverage of a topic.

**Binder**

Every child is required to have a 1-inch binder for math. Inside each of their math binders are 3 sections: Notes, HW/Extra Practice, and SAS/Misc. They should also have a small amount of scrap paper in the back of the binder. At the beginning of each unit your child will receive most of the papers that they will need for the entire unit. At the end of each unit, we will ask that they empty out all papers (and bring them home) so that we can move on to the next unit. This binder should most likely come home every night.

**Homework**

Homework will typically be assigned each night of the week, with the exception of Fridays. Homework is posted on the whiteboard inside my classroom and should always be written in your child’s agenda book. It will also be posted on the team website. We are also asking that the students practice their facts for a minimum of 5-10 minutes each night. *Fact fluency is very important as it makes learning new concepts in math much easier to grasp.* Homework assignments are worth 5 points. Students will receive full credit if all problems are complete the day that they are due. After that, they may receive either 3 points or 1 point, depending upon when they show me the complete work. *\*Please note: It is a student’s responsibility to show me the homework if it is late! I am trying to build responsibility and independence early on in the year!*

**Tests**

Your child will usually be given at least one week notice before a test. In preparation for tests, they can review their notes and practice problems within the binder. There also may be problems left in the HW/Extra practice section of the binder. It would be a good idea for your child to complete when studying.

**Think Central**

Think Central is a website that your child has access to throughout the year. \*Please note: we do not typically handout a textbook for each child, but if you would like one to keep at home, please request this from me. On this website your child can view the text book, print out extra workbook pages, and use the online manipulatives. <http://www-review-k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/start.do>. \*Please note: we do not typically handout a textbook for each child, but if you would like one to keep at home, please request this from me.

**IXL**

IXL is a website that students can utilize to practice many specific skills, some of which are part of our curriculum and some are not. Your child should be receiving their login information shortly. This will be a fantastic resource for your child to work on building their math skills. For further information on IXL please visit the website: <https://www.ixl.com/math/>.

**Contact Info**

 If you have any questions or concerns at any point during the year please contact me at [jnorton@neshaminy.org](mailto:jnorton@neshaminy.org). If your child is in my co-taught class (Block 1B), you may contact me and/or Mrs. Gordon at [agordon@neshaminy.org](mailto:agordon@neshaminy.org).