



March

- 1 Third Grade Concert
5:30 pm
- 12 PTO Meeting
SPECIAL TIME
3:15 pm
- 15 Math PEAK Night/
Academic Showcase
5:00-6:00 pm
- 23 PTO Family Fun
Night 5:30-7:00 pm

MATH ABOUT ME

NUMBERS, NUMBERS ALL AROUND.
EVERYWHERE THEY CAN BE FOUND

NUMBERS TELL HOW OLD I AM,
AND HOW MANY PEOPLE IN MY FAM.

HOW MUCH I WEIGH AND JUST HOW TALL
WHERE I LIVE AND THAT'S NOT ALL

NUMBERS ARE A PART OF ME.
MONEY TIME AND HISTORY.

WHEN TO WAKE UP AND WHEN TO EAT
WHAT SIZE SHOES TO BUY FOR MY FEET.

HOW MUCH MONEY SOMETHING COSTS
A NUMBER TO CALL IF MY DOG GETS LOST.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE I WOULD BE
IF NUMBERS WEREN'T A PART OF ME.

--Author Unknown



Principal's Message



This month is March Math Madness month! This is the time of the year when we celebrate everything math. The highlight of the month will be the Math PEAK Night and Showcase. Please be sure to mark your calendars for this special event.

I confess to preferring reading throughout my own elementary school years, but during the time I worked for the army, I discovered the amazing world of mathematics, and I have loved it ever since.

Please help us to instill a love for mathematics in your children. Obviously, it is important for students to know their math facts. Gaining automaticity with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division allows students to free up their brains to work

through higher level problems. Helping your child master math fact fluency is a great gift.

There is another way you can help. Make math part of your conversations at home. By making mathematics part of your daily life, you will be helping your child develop an understanding of how math works. I am not suggesting that you make up math problems for your child to solve, but rather make talking about mathematics just part of your daily routine. There are some suggestions for you to consider on the next page. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me or your child's teacher.

REMINDER

There is school
tomorrow March 2,
2018.



Third Grade Music Concert



Tonight is the annual third grade winter concert. Our third grade students, under the direction of Mrs. Small, have been practicing all year to bring this event to their school community. Despite setbacks due to weather, illness and calendar glitches, everything is finally ready! Students, their families and friends, as well as members of the community are welcome to join us tonight, March 1 at 5:30 in the school gymnasium to share in a musical celebration of our students' talents.



Library Theme:
Dr. Seuss's Birthday
Cat in the Hat
Green Eggs and Ham
Horton Hears a Who
The Lorax

Academic Excellence for All

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2018-2019 PreK and Kindergarten Registration

The Vine Street School is continuing to accept registrations for PreK and kindergarten students for the 2018-2019 school year. It is important for planning purposes that we know how many children will be attending PreK and kindergarten classes next year. Children who currently attend our PreK and live in the Vine Street District will be enrolled in a kindergarten class next year. If you know of any child in the Vine Street School district who will be four or five years old on or before October 15, 2018, please let the school know so we can contact them about the registration process.

Safety Reminders



At the School Committee meeting on February 28th, Dr. Webb spoke about school safety. While there are comprehensive plans in place to ensure the safety of students and staff at all of Bangor's twelve schools, these plans are, by their very nature, confidential. She reminded those in attendance and those watching from home that these plans are updated frequently—on a formal basis every year, and any time changes are advisable.

At the Vine Street School, the safety of your children is our number one priority. We need your help in a few areas. The main lobby doors are locked throughout the day. Please ring the buzzer to identify yourself if you need to come into the building. During dismissal, the procedure is for parents to wait to pick up their children outside near the doors where their child is dismissed or to wait in the cafeteria for a teacher to bring the child to them. Please do not wait for your child in the lobby area. This causes congestion and safety issues. If you have any questions, please contact Principal Silk.



Ideas for Building Math Skills

- Play board games that require the student to count spaces with a marker
- Play board games that use dice
- Play card Games like Rummy, Go Fish, and Cribbage
- Create patterns using crayons, paint or items such as toy cars, dinosaurs, or blocks
- Incorporate math vocabulary such as greater than and less than into your conversations
- When you are solving a problem with math involve the children (measuring, counting money, ensuring you got the right amount of change, etc.)
- Cook with your children having them follow the recipe and measure out ingredients (children love a challenge! Ask them to double or halve a recipe)
- Keep a clock in your home that is not digital. Help your child learn and practice telling time.
- Practice skip counting while driving in the car
- Ask your child to think through every day math problems with you—ask them if their answer makes sense
- Sing and chant math songs and poems like *Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed*
- Look for geometric shapes when you are out walking or driving
- Encourage your child to persevere when problems are difficult

What We Will Learn This Month

PK-Growing Up Healthy

Kindergarten-Writing-Informational "How-to-Books; **Reading-Learning About Each Other and the World-Anchor Texts:** *Making Music* and *Clothes in Many Cultures*; **Math-Compose and Decompose Numbers 11-19**

Grade 1 Writing-Narratives; Reading-Planting for the Future-Anchor Texts: *The Life Cycle of an Apple Tree* and *How a Seed Grows*; **Math-Use Models and Strategies to Add and Subtract 1's and 10's**

Grade 2 Writing-Poetry; Reading-Pioneering New Ideas and New Worlds-Anchor Texts: *Pioneers to the West* and *Going West*; **Math-Add and Subtract within 1000 Using Models and Strategies.**

Grade 3 Writing-Informational; Reading-Seeking Explanations-Anchor Texts-*Weather, On the Same Day in March, and Living Through a Natural Disaster*; **Math-Fractions**



MARCH CHALLENGES



This month is March Math Madness. Read a book that has anything to do with math, and I will stamp your passport. (Two of my favorites are *One Grain of Rice* and *The Lion's Share*).



March 2 is Dr. Seuss's birthday! Let's celebrate by reading some of his books. I challenge you to read any Dr. Seuss book, and I will stamp your passport.



You have already had a poetry challenge this year, but there are too many great poems to limit ourselves to just one! Read a poem or a book of poetry and see me for a stamp in your passport.



Do you like to solve problems? I do! I especially like it when people are creative in solving problems. Read a book about how someone solves a problem in a unique or original way and I will stamp your passport.



Some of my favorite books are written by Maine authors. I especially love reading the Mr. McGee books by Chris Van Dusen to my students and my own children. I challenge you to read a book by Chris Van Dusen or by any other Maine author.



During the month of March, our focus country is Spain. Read a book about Spain, and then come to the office to get your passport stamped.

MARCH CHALLENGES

PreK-1

To earn a stamp, complete this page for any challenge you completed. Put the title of the book in the blank. In the space below write a complete sentence telling why you did or did not like this book. Parents of PreK and K students may write their children's answers in for them.



I accepted Mrs. Silk's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Clark's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Mrs. Simko's Challenge! I read _____





I accepted Mr. Whitney's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted Mr. Whitney's Challenge! I read _____



I accepted the Vine Street School Staff Challenge! I read _____

When you have completed a challenge, tell your teacher. She will tell you when you can go to get your passport stamped. Remember each book can only be used for one challenge.



Reading Challenge Response Sheet

Grades 2-3

Congratulations on completing the first half of your challenge—you have read one of the books suggested by member. The second part of the challenge is just as important. We are asking you to write about your reading. It is important that whenever you write you give your best effort. Please complete this form and write at least 2-3 sentences about why you liked/or did not like the book.

Book Title _____

Author _____
