



THIRD GRADE MULTIPLICATION

We are introducing the concept of multiplication with a series of activities combining procedures and writing. We will be sending home unusual homework activities to reinforce the concepts presented in class. Once students have an opportunity to understand the concepts, we will begin multiplication fact drills, and multiplication tests.

Students are then tested on new facts, along with any previously learned facts, in a timed format. This timed format insures that students have a secure and automatic knowledge of the facts that will be necessary as they advance through the Math curriculum at St. Monica School.

Students will work at their own pace and are responsible for facts 1-12 for each number up to 12. Students are given 1.5 minutes to complete the test. If they do not pass with one or less wrong, they must retake the test as many times as necessary. Tests will assess the given number facts as well as any previous facts. After a student passes the sixes, s/he receives a prize. Once they pass the 12's, they receive a soda and treat.

From the beginning, and as the problems get progressively more difficult, it is **ESSENTIAL** that students study outside of class. Parents should study multiplication facts for a minimum of 15 minutes each night—longer if your child is struggling. Flashcards are a very effective way to study the facts. Have students repeat verbally the *entire problem with the answer* for maximum effectiveness. Other support such as games, written problems, internet activities, etc. will be very helpful also.

Once all tests have been passed, we will continue to review to stress retention of these facts. I will set deadlines for a number to keep everyone on task, and the student will receive the grade earned on the deadline day. However, they must pass a test before they can move on to the next number.

Find out your child's current level, and help him prepare for future sets. Mastering these facts—becoming secure and automatic—is essential for further Math development in third grade, and particularly later years.

Thank you for your support and good luck!

Ms. Ormand