

# K-4 Monthly Math Mews by Dawn Straith

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## More About the Basics

The Basics for Parents

There is an enormous amount of resources available that can help your child practice and memorize the basic facts. Many children need help finding these resources. Please continue to look to the K-4 Monthly newsletters for ideas. In this edition, I will provide you with a list of apps that can be used with a Smart Phone, iPhone, iPad, or the like. Please feel free to send me any tools that you know of and I will include them in future editions.

Everyday Mathematics offers its own apps for a minimal fee. These apps are great because they build upon activities that are used during the school day. At this time, the apps are only compatible with the iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. The apps can be found at: <a href="https://www.mheonline.com/apps/">https://www.mheonline.com/apps/</a>

The app titled *Math Practice-Math Fun* is available for phones using the Android operating system and can be found by doing a search in the Market. It is a free app and can be used for easy basic facts through more challenging double-digit problems.

Please help your 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grader remember to log any practice time to help his/her class win a prize in our monthly basic fact competition!

# **Basic Fact Competition**

October's Winner/November's Goal

October's winning class was: Mrs. Brown's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class—Way to go!

November's goal: The grade with the highest average per student, teamwork is required!

### **Homework**

Should I Help My Child?

This year, a great effort is being made by your child's teachers to ensure that all assignments to be completed outside of school are relevant, meaningful, and necessary for success. Most students need to practice on a daily basis to acquire proficiency and understanding. This is why you may see your child coming home with math homework most days there is school.

The goal is to assign work that can be completed by your child with little or no assistance. That is why we are asking parents to take a step back from helping their children with math homework. If your child is having difficulty, this must be communicated to the teacher and the best way to do this is through homework. Feel free to write a note at the top of the assignment explaining to the teacher that your child needs help. If you want to help your child, please click on the link below to see a list of recommendations.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

(and the Answers!)

Question: When should students be expected to know the basic facts?

Answer: Children should develop an automatic recall of the basic addition and subtraction facts by the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. They should also know most of their 1, 2, 5, and 10 multiplication facts by this time. By the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students should have an automatic recall of all the basic multiplication facts and be familiar with the basic division facts. Multiplication and division facts are reinforced at the beginning of 5<sup>th</sup> grade.