



Marvin Elementary School

News from the Principal,
Mrs. O'Shea

December 2017 Edition

Art and Math

Art and math have a lot in common with each other. In fact you can see the math in art and the art in math! Patterns, shapes, geometry, symmetry, spatial reasoning, etc... are all a part of the arts (visual art, music and dance), as they are of mathematics.

Some of what you see your child doing in art is also an engagement with mathematical ideas at the same time! By blending math and art, students learn in ways that are intellectual, emotional, and physical. Children learn in any different ways, and research shows that participating in the arts is one way that is very engaging for all of us.

A child stringing beads in a pattern on a string or creating a patterned bracelet is creating an understanding of patterning, although to them it may look simply like a pleasing design. When a children learns to play an instrument they are developing mathematical understanding of the relationships between scales, notes, and chords. Symmetry can be seen in the features of a butterfly or in a design when building. Children may notice patterns in wallpaper, tiles on the floor, or in rhythmic beats or repeated choreography in music videos or chords in a popular song. **There is math everywhere!**

Every day Mathematics – Daily Decisions

We all use math daily in what we do. Involve your child in using numbers to solve problems and have them help make everyday decisions with you. For example – Ask your child:

- “Do we have enough plates and forks for all the guest coming to the birthday party?”
- “We are doubling this recipe. How much of each ingredient will we need?”
- “We are fertilizing the lawn. One bag of fertilizer covers three square meters. How many bags will we need to buy?”
- “Store X is selling the toy you want for 20% off of \$27.00. Store Y is selling the same game for \$19.99. Where should we buy the toy and why?”

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
December 2017				1 C Conferences
4 D	5 A Conferences	6 B Conferences Snowflake Shop	7 C Con Night 90 min-EARLY DISMISSAL	8 D Conferences Marvin Spirit Day
11 A	12 B Conferences	13 C Conferences	14 D Conferences Concert – AM & PM	15 A Conferences Marvin Spirit Day
18 B	19 C	20 D	21 A	22 B 2 HR EARLY DISMISSAL
25	26	27	28	28
No School – Holiday Break – Enjoy!				

More About Conferences:

Conferences will be scheduled through December 15th. Night Conference will be held on December 7th.

Teachers will come prepared with samples of your child's work and with ideas to help them do even better in school. You should get ready for each conference, too.

Be sure and talk with your child before the conference. Find out what they think are their best subjects, and what subjects they like the least. Find out why.

Also, ask your child if there is anything they would like you to talk about with their teacher. Make sure they understand that you and their teacher are meeting together in order to help them.

Before you come to the conference, write notes to yourself about: personality, habits, problems, information about your child's home life, and hobbies that you feel are important for the teacher to know.

Questions you may think about asking your child's teacher:

- How well does my child get along with others?
- Is my child working up to his or her ability?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- What strengths do you see in my child?