September 26, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child has been placed in the 5th grade enriched math class based on his/her performance on standardized tests. This class will cover the regular 5th grade math curriculum at a faster pace, which will allow time to explore many of the concepts in greater depth. One way that we will do this is through challenge problems. In class, the students will be working on team challenge problems. But students are also required to work on the weekly challenge problems as well. For the first 9 weeks, the requirement is to earn 15 points through completing weekly challenge problems and it will increase each 9-week grading period. See the points checklist on the back for an explanation of how challenge points are earned.

Another way that we will increase the rigor and explore concepts in greater depth is through the enrichment projects. These projects are designed to provide our students with choice, extra challenge, and opportunities for creativity. A major focus is also communication skills, including oral, written, and visual. Since these projects go beyond the regular fifth grade curriculum, we want the focus to be on thinking and learning, not grades. Thus, students will be allowed to improve their projects and resubmit them for a higher grade within two weeks after the graded project is returned.

Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns and we really appreciate your support in providing the best education for your child.

Thank You,

Mrs. Wade & Mrs. Johnson
5th Grade Enriched Math Teachers

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**Weekly Challenges Points Checklist**

**5 Points** – Answer to the problem is clearly stated and correct. Work/proof is shown for how the problem was solved. Written explanation of strategies used with math vocabulary words is included.

**4 Points** – Answer to the problem is incorrect. Work/proof is shown for how the problem was solved. Written explanation of strategies used with math vocabulary words is included.

**3 Points** – Answer to the problem is correct. The Work/proof OR written explanation of strategies used is incomplete.

**2 Points** – Answer to the problem is correct, but both the work/proof or written explanation of strategies used are incomplete.

**1 Point** – Answer to the problem is incorrect. Both the work/proof or written explanation of strategies used are incomplete.

9-26-14

Student: ____________________________________________________________

I, ________________________________________________________________ have read over the letter, project requirements, and evaluations and have no questions or concerns regarding the 5th grade enriched math class at this time.

_______________________________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature