

September 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Exciting news! **MATH SURVIVOR EDMES Season 2** is in full swing. Here's a preview of the season ahead...



What is MATH SURVIVOR EDMES?

It is a school-wide program that supports and encourages students to practice their mental math skills. Using a Survivor theme, the school's CASE Team put together a program that allows students to practice mental math at home and school.

Mental arithmetic is embedded throughout the K-5 math curriculum, rather than taught as a separate unit, but we think everyone can benefit from a little extra practice (and maybe some fun competition). We're also hoping everyone in the EDMES learning community (you, us, your child) will learn more about the many opportunities for using mental arithmetic in our lives.

Looking ahead: You may have heard that NH has adopted the CCSS (Common Core State Standards). As our school and district moves ahead in aligning our curriculum with this initiative, **MATH SURVIVOR EDMES** will be an important program for helping our K-5 students develop and demonstrate their understanding of both mathematical practices and mathematical content.

What does Season 2 look like?

- **TRIBES:** The EDMES student population is divided into four tribes (the Red Reasoners, the Blue Balancers, the Green Graphers, and the Orange Operators). Tribes meet during tribe rallies and come together at school-wide tribal council meetings. Other information comes out via Tree Mail.
- **CHALLENGES:** Tribes earn points by participating in mental math challenges at the individual, grade, and tribe levels. As well, there may be an occasional physical challenge at a tribal council meeting.
- **DROP EVERYTHING AND PRACTICE:** What would Survivor be without individual and team skill building? Periodically, when the Survivor show music plays on the PA system, we will all stop and participate in a 5 minute practice session.
- **The MATH SURVIVOR EDMES Idol and other rewards:** While demonstration of increased mental arithmetic skills is the ultimate reward, our tribes will also be working together in hopes of claiming the **MATH SURVIVOR EDMES IDOL** for Season 2. From time to time, other rewards are offered as well.
- **TRIBE POINTS Bulletin Board:** On your visits to EDMES, be sure to check out our bulletin board in the lobby. Watch the tribe handkerchiefs track progress in moving up the **MATH SURVIVOR** ropes.

How can you help?

- **Parent Participation:** Your support is very important to the success of this program.

★ Ask your child about the **MATH SURVIVOR** program.

- ★ Encourage him/her to complete at least five blocks (the minimum to count towards the tribe participation level) on the monthly Individual Challenge.
- ★ Become familiar with the program's Mental Math Ladders (see below). There are addition, subtraction, multiplication and division math ladders. As student's progress, they will move up the ladder rungs. Teachers will recommend which ladder rung(s) your child works on. However, just as there are different types of mental arithmetic, children have different readiness levels. We suggest you work on the ladder rungs recommended, but also know what the next rung is (as this is where your child is climbing to)..
- ★ Seek opportunities to practice mental math facts that go along with the ladder rung your child is working on. Five or ten minutes at a time is about the right amount (in the car, waiting in line, during TV commercials, or whenever you have a free moment), but even two minutes helps.

★ Talk to your child about when you use mental math in your daily life. It's helpful if you talk through what you think about (such as why and how you use it).


★ Seek opportunities for 'real life' practice with mental math (once again, match these to the mental math ladder rung your child is on). Calculating totals, figuring out change, making estimates, and checking answers are some examples.

★ **HAVE FUN WITH MATH!**

Thank you,

**The MATH SURVIVOR
EDMES Tribal Council**

Mental Math Ladders



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four-digit multiples of 100 (e.g. 1300 + 1400) • two-digit (e.g. 67 + 24) • combinations of two-digit and three-digit multiples of 10 (e.g. 320 + 90, 320 + 430) • two-digit + one-digit (e.g. 37 + 5) • two-digit multiples of 10 (e.g. 60 + 80) • sums up to 20 • 10 more than the original number • sums up to 10 • two more than the original number • one more than the original number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change back from \$20, \$50 and \$100 • change back from \$1, \$5, and \$10 • combinations of two-digit and three-digit multiples of 10 (e.g. 50 - 20, 230 - 80, 420 - 200) • three-digit multiples of 100 (e.g. 500 - 200) • two-digit multiples of 10 (e.g. 50 - 20) • one-digit number from a two-digit number (e.g. 37 - 5) • two-digit multiples of 10 (e.g. 90 - 30) • for addition facts to 20 • 10 less than the original number • for addition facts to 10 • two less than the original number • one less than the original number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determines part of a whole number using benchmark percents of 1%, 10%, 25%, 50%, and 75% (e.g. 10% of 50) • three-digit multiples of 100 by two-digit multiples of 10 or 100 (e.g. 400 x 50, 400 x 600) • two-digit multiples of 10 (e.g. 50 x 60) • two-digit by one-digit (e.g. 45 x 5) • all multiplication fact families to 144 • all multiplication fact families to 100 • all multiplication fact families to 50 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three-digit and four-digit multiples of powers of ten by their compatible factors (e.g. 360 divided by 6) • for multiplication facts to 144 • for multiplication facts to 100 • three-digit multiples 100 by two-digit multiples of 10 or 100
Addition Ladder	Subtraction Ladder	Multiplication Ladder	Division Ladder