

Ms. Vermeulen's Newsletter

Get to know Ms. Vermeulen's role in your child's school day

Hello! My name is Ms. Alisa Vermeulen and I am the new math support specialist at Carpenter Elementary. I began my position at this school in early September and have begun working with 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students both inside and out of their general classroom. I come in twice a week during math time as well as pull students out twice a week to help review concepts.

When I come into the classroom during math, I am simply supporting students so they can better understand the instruction. When I pull out students, they are only gone for a half hour during non direct instruction. I am enjoying helping Carpenter students become more confident in math!

What's new?

Because both my position and I are new this year, I am constantly making alterations to help better benefit the students and teachers. This month I started a wall "Let's Talk Math," for the students. I have vocabulary, definitions, equations, and helpful hints on construction paper up on the wall, color coated by grade level.

I also have a new website avermeulen.weebly.com that has homework help as well as parent info. Please visit my website and comment on the forum letting me know what else you would like to see added!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at avermeulen@lakeorion.k12.mi.us ☺

Highlights of the Month

In Ms. Vermeulen's math classroom, third graders have been busy with wrapping up multiplication and division, and beginning their new measurement unit.

Multi-step story problems were an area of concern for many third grade parents. I have worked with students on steps they can take to be better math problem solvers, just as they learn ways to become better readers. This is the first year they are looking at such in-depth problems. They will become easier with practice! They are not expected to completely master these problems during their first try.

We have recently begun a new unit on measurement! This will be fun and exciting for students as they use all sorts of tools to help them with their math!

What you can do at home

- ❖ **Flash cards!** *Multiplication and division flash cards are a great way to help students master their facts. These are not disappearing- remind your child!*
- ❖ **Measure at home** *Give students a ruler or a measuring cup, whatever you have around the house. Have them show you what they are learning in school! Children benefit from hands-on experimenting with what they are learning.*
- ❖ **MobyMax**

