

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> 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!

### More about Ms. Vermeulen

As I have mentioned in my previous letter, I graduated Michigan State University in 2012 and then completed my year long internship within Oakland County. I have spent my recent summers at a Rochester Day Camp as well as taking classes or home tutoring.

I grew up and currently live in Shelby Township with my parents and sister. In my spare time I enjoy running, exercising with friends, and shopping. I am very excited to be a part of Lake Orion and Carpenter Elementary!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at [avermeulen@lakeorion.k12.mi.us](mailto:avermeulen@lakeorion.k12.mi.us) ☺

### Highlights of the Month

In Ms. Vermeulen's math classroom, third graders have been busy with multiplication, division, and reviewing some second grade concepts.

While practicing multiplication and division, students have worked in small groups to find tricks to make multiplying and dividing easier. We have also practiced many story problems, remembering to look for key words that help us decide whether to multiply or divide.

In addition, we have done some reviewing on perimeter, fractions, and subtraction with regrouping. These are often tricky topics for third graders. Students have practiced these topics so they will not be fooled when they are completing their "remembering," section of their homework!

### What you can do at home

- ❖ **Flash cards!** *Multiplication and division flash cards are a great way to help students master their facts.*
- ❖ **Practice with subtraction** *Students often need to revisit a math skill after it has not been used in a few months.*
- ❖ **MobyMax.com** *This is a great website to have your students practicing math skills while using technology!*

