# 4th Grade Updates

**Carpenter Elementary** 

January, 2014

## Ms. Vermeulen's Newsletter

#### Happy New Year!

While your child is stuck inside during these crazy snow/cold days, there are educational games they can do at home to keep their minds working. Check out my weebly for all the new games I have posted at avermeulen.weebly.com . Whether you have an ipad, android, or the internet, there is a game out there for your child.

Many parents have also asked me about extra practice. Under the "Homework Help," you can click on your student's grade, and then scroll down to the section header "Extra Practice." I usually have 2-3 extra practice sheets per chapter. These are activities students have not done in their main classrooms, or in mine. Please email me if you would like additional sheets and I will be more than happy to send those home!

Stay warm!!

#### What's New?

I have been making some changes in my groups and the students that I work with during the New Year. Before winter break, students were busy showing us what they have learned over the semester. The students took two quick math assessments to show us the growth they have made. This along with recent chapter tests, and common assignments has helped grade level teachers and I determine each individual students needs.

When deciding which students I should have pulled out, we consider what will be BEST for the student. If your student has made great progress, you will receive an email from me letting you know that he/she no longer needs to be pulled out of the classroom!

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, fourth graders have been busy finishing up algebra and are ready to move onto measurement!

Many students struggled when it came to multi-step story problems last unit. They would see all the words and numbers on a page and get overwhelmed. I reminded students to break down the problem, underling and circling important facts. Check out the checklist we used under "Homework Help > Fourth Grade > Resources." These story problems will come back and your child IS capable of doing them ©

Students are excited to move onto our next unit of measurement. This is quite a change, and many students are excited! Ask your child to help them measure with you at home!

### What you can do at home

- Flash cards! Multiplication and division flash cards are a great way to help students master their facts. Ask me for a link to free flash cards!
- \* Review their homework Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade are often asked to finish their math assignments at home. I have seen a lot of assignments in which students have not tried their personal best.
- MobyMax.com This is a website to have students practicing skills while using technology!