

# **RAISE Your SMARTS!**

**Atkinson Elementary School**

**November-December 2009**

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Believe it or not, the Atkinson School is assigning you some homework! Well, kind of...

We are encouraging more family participation in our RAISE programming this year and we hope you will get involved with our theme for November and December. Attached to this letter is our first RAISE YOUR SMARTS Participation Page for you and your child.

Our school's focus for this term is MATH FACTS and NUMBER SENSE. Students in each grade level will be part of a contest in December that will test their knowledge and skills in those areas.

Grade K will be focused on number sense with the terms "before, after and between." Kids will need to know how numbers are sequenced. Grades 1 & 2 will target accuracy with adding and subtracting numbers with one and/or two digit. Grade 3 will focus on speed and accuracy adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers. Grades 4 & 5 will challenge the students to demonstrate knowledge of all multiplication facts through the 12's.

On the attached page, there is a menu of activities that your child can choose to do over the next few weeks. We really encourage practice on computation, but we are also suggesting literature and artistic expressions linked to mathematics. Hopefully the kids (and you) will find these activities meaningful and fun.

If you and your child complete any one of the activities, he/she will receive a "participation point" on his/her classroom star. Over the course of the year, if your child earns five participation points, he/she will be entered in the drawing for the CONVERSE "Design Your Own Sneakers" grand prize.

In January and February, the RAISE YOUR SMARTS theme will be "Olympic Geography and Culture." March and April will challenge the students to show their "Poetry Power." Finally, in May and June, the school will highlight "Innovations in Science" over the years.

Any extra work your children do for RAISE YOUR SMARTS will be proudly displayed in the school for all to admire. Our All-Star Assemblies will also serve to showcase the students' efforts and what they've learned through the activities at school and at home.

Don't think that you need to do separate projects for each child in your family. Pick one from the list and make it a team effort. Each student will get individual credit for the work done by the entire family. Have fun together and thank you for all your support!

Mr. Landry & the Atkinson Faculty