Dear Parents,

Math is around us all the time. In today's high-tech society, everyone needs a strong foundation in math to be successful. All of us use quick reasoning and problem solving skills daily. Even if we use calculators, we still need those good math skills.

Sometimes our children do not see how useful math can be especially when it deals with homework. You as parents can help. Point out to your children when they use math in their everyday life. If they have a weekly allowance, ask them how long they will have to save until they could buy a certain video game. Simple games like this can increase math skills considerably.

Mental math skills are very important in everyday life. Listed below are some simple ideas you might like to try.

- Ask your child to give answers to small math problems.
- Teach your child to estimate an answer.
- Ask your child if the answer is reasonable.
- Ask for your child's help at the grocery store—Compare prices of items.

Remember that Clover Garden purchased the rights to Study Island, an excellent program to help prepare your child for NC State Testing. If you have not visited this site, give it a try.

Sincerely, Donna Johnson