**5th Grade Mathematics**

Dear Parents,

I look forward to working with your child this year as we delve deeper into the world of math. I would like to share some tips for a successful year. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns at cmuir@visitationschool.org

**Keys for Success**

DAILY PREPARATION: Students aid the class and their own learning when they are equipped with the proper class materials and have completed the tasks assigned to them. Each student is to have a sharpened pencil, a correcting pen, a ruler, graph paper, the green folder and a textbook ready for each math class. In addition, students will benefit by having their daily homework complete (including any necessary corrections).

GOOD NOTE TAKING: Due to the spiraling nature of 5th grade math curriculum, it is imperative that students are thorough in their note-taking. A successful student’s notebook will be neat, organized and complete.

HOMEWORK COMPLETION: Homework will be given daily (excluding test days). Each homework assignment will consist of thirty problems. All problems are from skills/concepts covered in that day’s or a past lesson. Homework is to follow the specific format given and is to be presented neatly. Necessary work is to be shown, and all problems are to be attempted.

CORRECTION PROCESS: Each day students are asked to check their homework for errors and are expected to correct those errors on a separate correction page. Corrections are to be worked on before students begin their homework assignment. This process helps students to gain a better understanding of math concepts and become more aware of their math weaknesses.

TEST PREPARATION: Due to the spiraling nature of the curriculum, careful preparation is suggested. Be assured that tests ONLY contain problems that require skills or understanding already covered in class. However, after many lessons have been covered, a student would not know which lessons to study from to help prepare for the test. Therefore, completing homework daily and providing genuine corrections become the tools needed for proper preparation of tests.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS: All graded student work will be sent home approximately every two weeks. To improve upon past test scores, I would suggest that students take the time to discover the errors they had made in the previous test. Though I don’t require test corrections (nor are points given for them), it is highly suggested and can have a positive impact on future assessments.

WILLINGNESS TO LEARN: There is likely no greater indicator of a student’s success than that student’s motivation to learn. Each day I attempt to prepare and implement lessons that will engage student learning. To that end a variety of teaching strategies are used. I value the discovery process and group collaboration, and I provide direct instruction models and opportunities to practice skills. If a student comes to class willing to learn, then I am more able to facilitate that student’s success.