I wanted to send some quick information regarding the Math test that came home today. Let me start by saying that this year's tests were newly created over the summer so they are almost as new to me as they are to you. After completing the test Mr. Kresge and I realized that the students have not yet been taught rounding which was the "Open Ended/ Part A and Part B" question (We vaguely touched on it while doing a Daily Common Core question).

You will see this crossed off on your child's test. We decided it was not fair to ask them a question on a skill that we have not yet taught this year. This question was not counted into their final grade. If you look at the front of their test you will see they were graded on 34 points rather than a total of 38 points which would have included the Open Ended Response.

Let me explain the way my tests are marked as they may look different than previous years. At the bottom of each page you will see a number. This indicates the number your child had correct on that page. I then add the total number of correct responses on each page to get the number you will see on the front page above the total amount of questions. For instance, if your child had 29 correct responses out of 34 you will see a 29/34 on the front page of the test. I then divide these numbers to get the percentage. The bonus questions are added AFTER the percentages have been figured out.

Let me also say that I am human. If EVER you disagree/are not sure about something I may have marked wrong, please let me know. I do make mistakes. I will gladly take the time to look at things you question.

I know that some of you may be in “shock” with your child’s grade. Please, please keep in mind that this year is MUCH harder than previous years. Let me give you an example in Place Value. Your child only ever was tested to the hundreds column. This year your child is expected to know place value to the hundred thousands. She/he also had to learn standard, expanded, and word form to succeed on the test. They also have to study for Science which was never tested (taught?) before. There are so many more expectations for third graders. Please keep this in mind when you see your child’s grades. This is typical of the first few tests in third grade. Once the students see their first few grades, they tend to study harder.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to ask.

Thank you,

Karen Blisard