Dear Parents of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 02/13/13

We are putting a new system into place to help your student with their number fluency. By the end of third grade, we are looking for students to be "fluent" in their single-digit addition, subtraction **and multiplication** facts. Students should strive for accurate and quick computation.

In third grade, they are working with higher-level and multi-step problems. When they know these facts automatically, they are able to concentrate on the more difficult strategies and computations required of them at third grade level. It is absolutely crucial that your student work toward gaining this fluency **this year**.

Three to four days a week, your student will be experiencing a 5-10 minute fluency intervention, using a program called Touch Math. Each day, they will work with a teacher from Wayne State on the front side of a fluency worksheet. The backside will be assigned for **homework** that shouldn't take them more than 10 minutes to complete. Please familiarize yourself with the method and continue to support your child with both of his or her daily math homework assignments.

The back of this letter has brief instructions to help you support your child with this new system. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

 Sincerely,

 Mrs. Cory and Miss Orrin

Touch Math Guidelines

Step 1: Students touch to the top number's dots, and say it aloud, or count aloud.

Step 2: Students touch the computation sign, and say "plus" or "minus" aloud.

Step 3: Students use the second number's dots to count up from the first number. A solid dot signifies **one**touch, and a solid dot with a ring around it signifies **two** touches.

Step 4: Students write in the answer in the proper place.

 Ex. "Four"

 "Plus"

 "One, two,
 three, four,
 five, six,
 seven, eight."

Below is a number key, for your reference.