Math Moment…

Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board
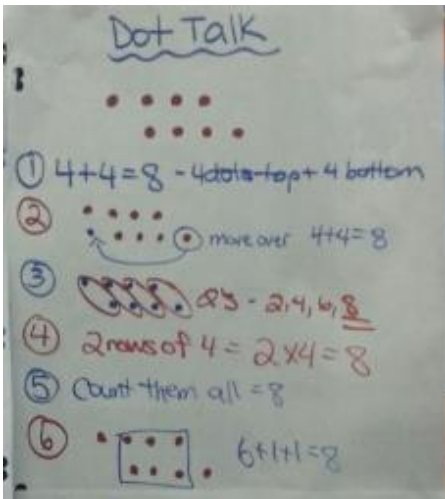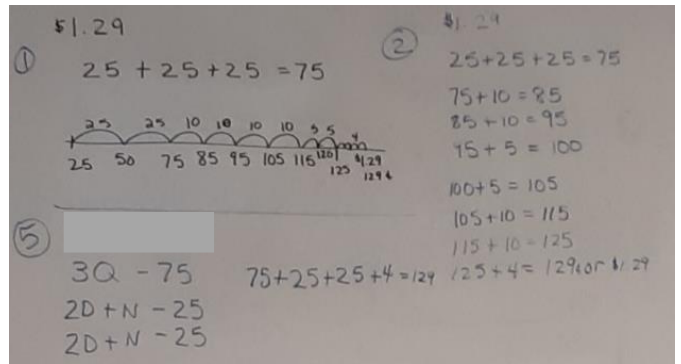
Number Talks and Dot Talks – *Examples from our Schools*

When Number Talks happen in a classroom, it gives students agency in their learning. It also allows new ideas the students learn to extend from the existing ways they understand the Math. There is no one way to solve for a question, but rather a few different strategies that will help to get to an answer. With support from a young age, students begin to fill a toolbox with strategies that become more efficient for them over time, so as to answer more varied and complex questions.
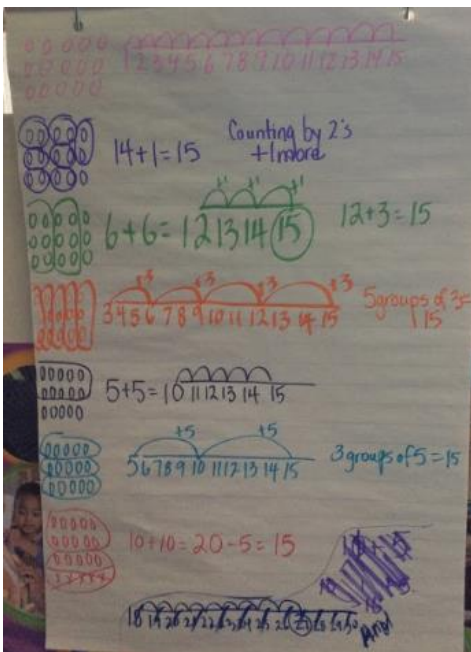
To help parents and guardians further understand Number Talks and subsequently the Number Sense learning that is happening in our system, a few images are provided below. These were selected from a number of images provided by classroom teachers of their students' learning.
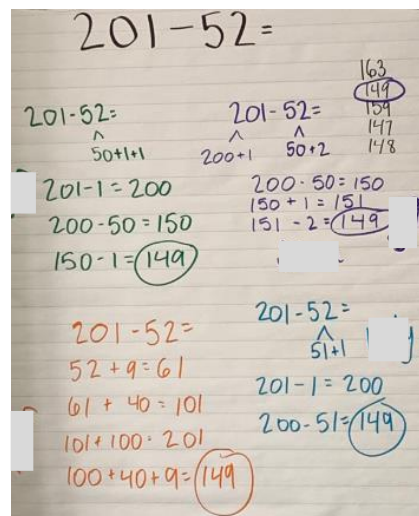

Kindergarten – How do you see the 8 dots?

Grade 3 – What strategies are being used to find the sum of the coins?

Grade 4 – How can we efficiently subtract these numbers in our head?

Grade 1 – How do you see the 15 dots?

Number Talk

90
80
95

18 x 5

Overshoot & Return

5 × 20 = 100
− 10
90

Break a factor into addends
5 × 10 = 50
5 × 8 = 40
90

Double & Divide or
overshoot & divide
10 × 18 = 180
5 = ½ 10
180 ÷ 2 = 90
(18 ÷ 2 • 9)

18
× 5
90
T.A.

Skip counting
5 × 18
(18+18)(18+18)+18
(36 + 36) +18 = 90
72 + 18 = 90

Grade 5 – What is your favourite strategy? Which one would you use to solve a similar multiplication question?

Home Activities

Here are a couple of links to support examples of Number Talks you can try at home with your child.

- Number Talk Images
- Number Talk Examples

For more resources on how to help your child at home, please visit the Math Supports page on the PVNCCDSB website.

Check out February's Math Problem! Share your strategies with @PVNCCDSB using #PVNCLearns #PVNCMath!

Who wears matching socks?

12 very different socks are in your drawer.
What could they look like? Draw them.
Use pictures, words, or numbers to tell the chance of three things that could happen if you pulled out a sock from the drawer.

- Each classroom is welcome to modify the question to meet the needs of their students.

- Consider having a similar challenge in the entrance/corridor of the school for parents, guests, staff members, and students to contribute to.