Dear Family,

Your child is exploring addition and subtraction equations with Math Mountain Cards. The cards have a large number at the top and two smaller numbers at the bottom. From the cards, children can see that two smaller numbers can be added together to make a large number. They can also see that a large number can be broken apart into two smaller numbers.

Children will write addition and subtraction equations that they can make from the cards, as shown in the example. The two partners, 5 and 3, can be added to make the total, 8. They can be switched (3 and 5) and still make 8.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{8} \\
\text{5 + 3} \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

5 + 3 = 8  \hspace{1cm} 8 = 5 + 3

3 + 5 = 8  \hspace{1cm} 8 = 3 + 5

8 − 5 = 3  \hspace{1cm} 3 = 8 − 5

8 − 3 = 5  \hspace{1cm} 5 = 8 − 3

Students see and write all 8 equations. It is important for understanding algebra that they see equations with only one number on the left.

Please call if you need practice materials. Thank you for helping your child learn about the relationship between addition and subtraction.

Sincerely,

Your child’s teacher