

**Assessment For Learning  
Voices of Experience  
Handout Six  
SIN Letter**

January 26, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Attached to this note is your child's most recent Meta-cognition Mind Map. This is the unit test for the multiplication unit. Each student had to solve a 3 digit by 2 digit question and then show, on the mind map, the things they thought about as they did the question. As well I asked the kids to write out the steps they went through to solve the question. On the back, they solved two more questions. Through the mind map and the written out steps I am able to see if the students understood the algorithm for solving large multiplication questions. This lets me see what they know, how they think about the question and solving it, and if they make errors, where these occur.

My marking consists of a numerical mark out of 15, but more importantly comments. **S** – stands for their **strengths**, **I** stands for the things they can improve on, and **N** stands for the things I would like them to remember to do **next** time. For the children that got, 15/15 I usually just gave them comments on their strengths.

I am very pleased with the results. I will have talked with your child about their results and if needed, helped them realize where they make mistakes and what to do correctly next time. Please periodically give your child a large multiplication question to do so they remember how to solve them. I encourage the kids to do the "math mumble", talking themselves through the steps needed to solve the question. As well, please continue to work on Multiplication and Division facts with your child until they have them memorized. Learning the facts in math is kind of like learning the letters in Kindergarten. The more they know the easier it gets.

All the best,

Judy