Family Math Letter
Grade 4: Unit 5
Fractions and Decimals

Dear Family,
Our class is starting a new unit in math called Fractions and Decimals. They will write equivalent fractions, rewrite decimals as fractions, and compare two decimals using >, <, and =.
At the end of Unit 6, students will be able to:

- Express a fraction with denominator 10 as an equivalent fraction with denominator 100.
- Use decimal notation for fractions with denominators 10 or 100.
- Compare two decimals to hundredths by reasoning about their size.

Each student should be able to answer/solve questions like the following:

Carol jogged $\frac{1}{10}$ of a mile then stopped to rest at her cousin's house. Then she jogged another $\frac{1}{100}$ of a mile. How far did she jog in all? Write your answer using decimals.

Answer: **.1**
+.01
0.11 miles

Miquan has three cats named Sophie, Tigger, and Ghost. Sophie weighs 4.27 lbs., Tigger weighs 4.75 lbs., and Ghost weighs 4.7 lbs.

- Which cat has the greatest weight? **Answer: Tigger**
- Which cat weighs the least? **Answer: Sophie**
- Compare Ghost's weight to Sophie's weight using >, <, and =. **Answer: 4.27 < 4.7**

(This is read four and twenty seven hundredths is less than four and seven tenths.)

Fraction and Decimal Scavenger Hunt Be on the lookout for examples of fractions (or decimal numbers) in your world—in the kitchen using a recipe, in a toolbox or a sewing kit, in grocery or hardware stores, or in magazines and newspapers. Take these opportunities to talk with your child about what the fraction means.

In our math class, students spend time discussing problems in depth and are asked to share their reasoning and solutions. It is important that children solve math problems in ways that make sense to them. At home, encourage your child to explain the math thinking that supports those solutions and show you the strategies that he/she uses to solve math problems.

Sincerely,