



Grade 1 – Math Course Outline and Expectations

Lead instructor: Vincent Chan

Email: Vincent.chan@renertschool.ca

A. The main goal of mathematics education is to help students:

- Build strong analytical skills
- Demonstrate flexibility and creativity of thought
- Solve problems analytically by using mathematical processes
- Communicate and reason mathematically
- Appreciate and enjoy the beauty and value mathematics
- Develop the ability to prove, reason, and advocate a position logically and intelligently

B. The General Outcome of this course is to continue to expand the skills developed in previous years, building strong arithmetic skills and sense of number, understanding basic geometry, and developing strong analytical minds capable of creative problem solving.

We will recognize mathematics as the science of pattern, fostering creativity and flexibility of thought, using proper mathematical vocabulary, and laying the foundation for algebra and abstract mathematics. At Renert, we know that the only way to “do” mathematics is by understanding, not by memorization.

C. Required Materials

- Brain
- At least 3 sharpened pencils, eraser
- Note: all study materials (e.g. books, handouts, etc.) will be provided to the students in class.

D. Digital Communication

- I have a course website at <https://vchan2.github.io/2025gr1/> which will contain important information in an easy-to-navigate format.
- If possible, use e-mail to contact me digitally instead of Schoology.

E. Student Expectations

I expect you to:

- Treat yourself, your teachers and the subject matter with the same respect you deserve and would like to be treated with.
- Adopt a good attitude and an open mind towards the subject matter. Mathematics is the crowning jewel of human thought. It is intriguing, beautiful, fun, and exciting. Come to class with an eager mind. Attend not only in body, but also in spirit.
- Come to class prepared! Have your materials with you and have it ready to use as soon as you get in the classroom. When your teacher arrives in the classroom, you should be ready to start.
- Do your homework. **Homework at Renert School is not optional.** Math is not a spectator sport: you learn it by practising, solving problems and participating. It is an expectation that you complete homework **10 to 15 minutes every day.**
- The only way to improve in mathematics is by doing mathematics. Failing is part of the experience; do not despair if you do not get all the right answers right away (nobody does). The best learning is by trial and error.
- Participate in class and ask questions: if you do not know something, quite a few of your friends around you struggle with it as well.
- You may bring a small **plastic water bottle** with a lid to class if you need to drink a lot. If you forget it, **you will not be able** to get it during class.

F. Parent Expectations

- Provide your child with a quiet environment, free of distractions (meaning no iPod, iPad, iPhone, or iAnything...) so they may concentrate when working at home.
- Support your child by **marking their work** (see *Marking Guide for Parents*) as they go. It makes a world of difference and takes minutes.
- Communicate **in real time** with your child's teacher whenever an issue arises. Contact me through Schoology or by email, if you have **any** questions.

I have read, understood and intend to do my utmost to meet all above expectations:

Student name: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____

(Parent should be familiar with this list of expectations, and make sure student understands them)