

## **Mathematics** (Evan Dewdney)

Numbers allow us to understand the world we live in, and this understanding is crucial to being a citizen in today's world. At The New School, we attack mathematics with humor, real world applications, and hands on projects. The goal of the math program at The New School is for students to be comfortable with math and to see the connection between numbers, mathematics, and their lives. To achieve this goal, each student must be challenged in a unique way. For some, this means challenge assignments and visualizations using technology, for others, this means removing the fear of math and gaining confidence in their own ability to solve problems.

The Math Gateway is the minimum achievement level we expect of all our students. In the Math Gateway, each student will explain how to solve three problems. In solving these three problems, the student will show their command of the basic concepts of algebra: the connections between graphs, tables, equations, and words.

We cover a variety of topics in the math program, ranging from pre-algebra topics (fractions, percentages, and ratios) to algebra, geometry, trigonometry, statistics, and even a little calculus. We also explore a variety of technology so students understand the tools that are available to them. While covering these topics, students are always expected to solve problems. Even if the math will not be directly applied in their future lives, problem solving will be necessary, and the study of mathematics is the best way to build problem solving skills.