



BEFORESCHOOLSTARTED on Thursday, Jori Diederich (above) played out his next move. Joseph Hirsch and Chad Williams (bottom) concentrated on the board during the beginning of their tournament game.



Game teaches math

Oberlin Elementary Grade School fifth graders have been competing in a weekly early morning tournament in the library since October.

The students have been using multiplication, division, subtraction and addition to win a game called Contig 60.

In the beginning there were 24 students in the Thursday morning tournament. As of last week, there were 10 left. The tournament is based on a bracket system and double elimination.

Teacher Christie Morris taught the fifth grade classes Contig 60 as part of her weekly enrichment sessions.

Students learned the game in September and then a month later started the tournament. Mrs. Morris said the tournament is optional.

Each game is played between two students, and each student starts at 60 points. The student rolls three dice and then they have to come up with a math statement using the three numbers, said Mrs. Morris. The answer to the statement is a number on the board. The student places a chip in either blue or red on that number.

Each chip next to that student's chip represents one point taken away from the 60 points they start with. For example, if the student places a chip and there are three next to it, then three points would be taken away from the 60.

Mrs. Morris said one way to win the game is to have five chips belonging to the student in a row. The other way to win is to have the lowest points when the bell rings and the game is over.



Herald staff photos by Kimberly Brandt