

Mathathon at Academy Raises \$1,638 for St. Jude Children's Hospital

By Lilly Hansing, Kindergarten Teacher, Broomfield Academy

Students at Broomfield Academy raised \$1,638 to aid research in diseases that affect children patients battling cancer and other catastrophic childhood diseases. Children aged four to twelve participated in *Mathathon*, a program where students use their mathematics skills to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Broomfield Academy's students regularly participate in community service, and this particular math event provided a unique opportunity to fundraise while sharpening their academic skills. "Our students loved the *Mathathon*", said Principal Dr. Vanessa Ewing. "By solving age-appropriate math problems, our students not only honed their



math skills but they further developed their understanding of the importance of helping others," she added.

Students learned that they could be creative and help other children that are in need by using their ability to solve math problems. Mila Bush, a Kindergarten student who raised \$130, said, "I got

lots of points. I talked to my neighbors and my parents helped, too. I like doing math."

Neighbors, family and friends sponsored students who earned points by completing math problems. The number of points each child earned determined how much money each of them raised. Contributions ranged from five to two hundred dollars.

"I wanted to help people that were sick get better, because without *Mathathon* they would stay sick, not get better. I liked doing

the tally marks,” stated Murray Rundus, a Kindergarten student who raised over \$150.

Broomfield Academy makes community service projects a priority. Each month a different class chooses a deserving organization and sets the fundraising strategy for the entire school. An emphasis is placed on taking responsibility, both individually and globally. This helps to students to have a well-rounded education and gives them the opportunity to use their knowledge to better their world.

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