

## Parent information Regarding the ALEKs Program

We have registered your student for the Aleks program. It is a web-based math program that works on computation and general math skills. We are in the process of giving the students a brief orientation to the program and having them take the pre-test so the program knows what level they are working at. The program will be more effective when students use it 3 to 4 times a week, so we are expecting the students to also utilize the program at home as well as at school. Grades 4 to 8 will use ALEKs at school once a week, and grades 2 & 3 will use it as time permits. Our teachers will be going into the administrator file on a regular basis to survey student usage as documentation in support of the purchase of this program. Please create a time at home for your child to use ALEKs. It will allow us to have the information needed to prove the value of this expenditure and give your child valuable math practice.

### How to use Aleks

Grades 3 – 8: When your student logs in to Aleks you will see their pie chart, which shows their progress in each math category. If they hold the mouse over a pie piece, a list of topics to practice/study will appear and they can click on one. As they practice they can just click to get an explanation of vocab words, procedures for the concept, and a calculator (when needed). There is a searchable dictionary of math terms as well. After each problem it will give them the correct answer and an explanation if they got it wrong. After they are getting the problems correct, it will move into topics to review and they can return to their pie and pick a new topic. Once they have practiced a few topics, they can click on the review skills tab to go back over skills they've already practiced (to check for mastery). They choose a topic to review, and as they get them correct and move to mastery of that topic, it will leave the review list and their pie piece will grow to reflect the newly mastered skill.

Grade 2: Quick Tables lets them practice their basic math facts for all four operations separately. The first time they go to practice an operation they will have to take a pre-test, but then they will be able to practice specific facts that they struggle with. As they become more proficient they will be able to unlock games that help them practice their facts.

### How access it at home:

Your student can access Aleks online from your home computer. The program is Java based and there is a plugin you will need to install first.

To install the plugin on your home computer:

- 1) Go to [www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com)
- 2) On the right side near the top click on downloads
- 3) Click on the green download bar
- 4) Follow the on screen directions for downloading the plug in on your computer

Once the download is complete you can go back to the home screen and your student can log in. Their user name & password is on a sticker on the inside cover of their assignment book. If they have lost it please contact Miss Novak for a new one.

If you have any technical questions about navigating the program or installing the plugin please contact Miss Novak, Mrs. Truty or Ms Rudis

If you have any other question please contact Mrs. Linley or Miss Novak