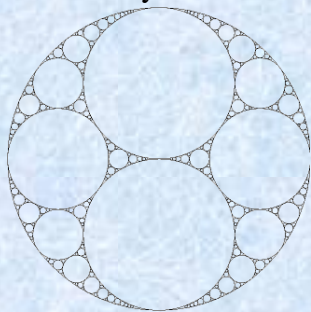# Geometry Newsletter

End of January 2013

Geometry in January

In January your students

were transported to a world wherein we studied the similarity of triangles and determined their connection to the universe! You may have been inundated with factoids about the mathematician Benoit Mandelbrot, or seen your student doodling in mathematics showing pictures of Koch snowflakes or Apollonian gaskets (see below). These are all examples of self-similar shapes that are derived from the work of mathematicians from recent history.
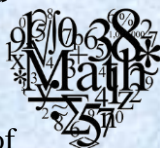

Students were excited to learn of the application of these ideas to their own lives. It was, by far, one of the most interesting couple of weeks in Geometry.

What's to Love About Math?

As we dive through February, we will focus on circles and polygons. Circles are the foundation of Euclidean Geometry and as such are vital to understanding the way constructions and other ideas in geometry are formed. We jump back into a focus on proof-writing in this quarter.

Be Prepared!

Students should be ready to use their calculators in the end of the third quarter. In fourth quarter, students will need to be fully able to use their graphing calculators consistently. As such, we will spend a few days learning their use in third quarter. The graphing calculator that I prefer for students to use is the TI-83 or TI-84 calculator.

This calculator is preferred by most math teachers at CPA and will be sufficient for all the work your student will do up through their senior year (as well as most of their college course mathematics as well!) so it is a worthwhile investment.

Thanks as always for your support and feel free to contact me whenever necessary!