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### *Primary Math World Contest*

### **Evergreen student returns from international math contest with team honors**

Evergreen's Akash Gupta represented the United States in Hong Kong as part of a four-student team at the ninth Po Leung Kuk Primary Mathematics World Contest, helping the team win a third-place trophy for the Po Leung Kuk Cup in the group prizes and a fourth-place trophy in the team prizes.

This is the only international math competition for middle school students 13 or younger held on July 16-20 against 43 teams from countries such as Australia, Bulgaria, China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Macau, Mexico, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and South Africa.



*(From left) Displaying their awards from a recent Primary Mathematics Contest in Hong Kong are assistant coach Elisha Garg, student Logan Short from Redwood Middle School in Saratoga, student Alex Chang from Menlo School in Atherton, Coach Ewa Garg, student Felix Sung from Miller Junior High in San Jose, Evergreen's student Akash Gupta from Chaboya Middle School and assistant coach Aaron Garg. Felix Sung was the only U.S. student to receive an individual prize.*

believe that kids learn and improve better if they have goals.”

She noted that most math competitions focus on problem-solving mathematics, which is different from the straightforward computational math that is done in school. It requires reasoning, logical thinking and problem-solving techniques.

If you're interested in math contests and/or learning problem-solving mathematics, contact Ewa Garg at (408) 354-1022. Her e-mail address is [ewagarg@gmail.com](mailto:ewagarg@gmail.com) and Web site is [www.mathedge.org](http://www.mathedge.org).

“The contest was highly competitive, and I'm extremely happy with the results,” said Coach Ewa Garg, who entered a team in this contest for the first time. “Many countries had a long process to select their final team from tens of thousands of students who signed up initially. They would go through many rounds of vigorous training and elimination.”

To select the students, Garg held a tryout in April, where 61 fifth- to seventh-graders from 25 different schools in the Bay Area took the qualifying test. Garg offered brief training in May and mid-June.

“I'm a competitive math coach who teaches problem solving mathematics,” Garg said. “I love coaching talented students and taking them for math competitions. I