January 2023- Issue 6

ST COLM'S HIGH SCHOOL

The official newsletter for the maths and numeracy department



In this month's 🕢 newsletter

- Department news and highlights
- Open night highlights
- Chinese New Year
- Puzzle of the month
- Helping pupils with
 studying



Welcome back to our newsletter for the maths and numeracy department. We have had a busy number of weeks since our return from the Christmas holidays, and it is only going to get busier coming up to the mid-term break in February. This newsletter has our usual features of department highlights, puzzle of the month and mathematician of the month for our year 8 and 9 classes. It will also feature some more tricks and tips to help further our pupil's studying at home. In addition, we are glad to show our highlights from the hugely successful open night, as well as a sneak peak at possible questions for the UKMT intermediate challenge next week.

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We hope you enjoy!

PARTMENT NEWS DE

Mathematician of the Month

8S: C Kelly 8T: C Dunlop 8C: C Canning 80: G Hughes 8L: M Tawfig





Video of the month

ongratulation

Not necessarily a maths video, but always good to share interesting videos and links from other subjects.

On Tiktok, you can find @nilered, Watch on DY a chemistry enthusiast who loves showing the natural beauty of chemistry.

Have a look at the following video where he turns coca cola clear! https://www.youtube.com/watch ?v=YA_ZLKYyco4





Well done to Mrs Skelton's class who consolidated their learning with this lovely Tarsia task. Pupils are given questions they need to solve, and then match them up with accompanying answers to form a nice deisgn.







ebsite of the mo

We love to post resources that can help you succeed in your maths GCSE. Given we are only 4 short months away from the maths exam, it is probably a good idea to start looking at resources to revise with.

Here is a website that can help with you EVERY topic on the maths exam. It is filled with exam questions, videos and booklets that can help you progress!

Have a look below on the following website. I'm sure if you have a look you will think it is magic!

Maths Genie - Free Online GCSE and A Level Maths Revision

Maths Genie is a free GCSE and A Level revision site. It has past papers, mark schemes and model answers

Maths Genie

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5(2p+7) = 10p+7

As highlighted by 10L this week, a common misconception with breaking brackets is when pupils only multiply the first number of the bracket. This is why it is better to think of brackets in the same way we think of our times tables. For example, 4 x 6 is four lots of six. Similarly 5(2p+7) is 5 lots of 2p +7. So we add five 2ps and 5 7s together to get 10p+35.

- OPEN NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS -

On Thursday 12th January, our school held its first open night in 3 years.
This night proved to be hugely successful, with over 150 primary 7's and around 60 primary 6's arrived to see what St Colm's had to offer.
The maths department put on a show! We had our Izak9 device in action with 3 great puzzles, laptops showing Eduten and freckle, as well as some mathemagic which left our future students bewildered! We look forward to seeing our future students next year and look forward to getting to know you better.





As we mark the beginning of the coming 12 months on the traditional lunisolar calendar, we said goodbye to the the year of the Water Tiger and welcomed the 2023 Lunar New Year with the Year of the Rabbit.

Ms Nixon produced a fantastic lesson for our pupils who follow a thematic curriculum. They developed their skills with calendar work, money work and developed a menu for some amazing chinese food in the canteen. This then led to some inter-disciplinary learning with Home Economics. Well done to all involved and thanks again to Ms Nixon for organising!



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Puzzle of the Month

Next week is the return of the Intermediate Maths challenge run by the UK Maths Trust. The UK Mathematics Trust was founded in 1996 with the charitable aim of advancing the education of young people in mathematics.

This is a tremendous opportunity for our brightest pupil to test their wits against others across the UK. The challenge comprises 25 mathematics puzzles of varying difficulty. The first 15 scores 5 points, where the next 5 are 6 points, followed by the final 5 which are 7 points.

The challenge itself is difficult, however the enrichment activities aim to open young people's minds to the breadth and depth of mathematics.

This month's puzzle features a question from last years challenge. Have a go and see if you can do it yourself.

Pete's pies all cost a whole number of pounds.

A cherry pie costs the same as two apple pies.

A blueberry pie costs the same as two damson pies.

A cherry pie and two damson pies cost the same as an apple pie and two blueberry pies.



Paul buys one of each type of pie.

Which of the following could be the amount he spends?

226+6





MathsBox SKI-Run

By starting with the number in white. Find the final answer to the green, amber and red ski run.

	40	
+3	÷ 5	× 5
-7	+12	-56
+9	× 3	Square root
-4	÷ 6	+30
+10	+25	÷7
-5	÷ 7	× 30
+6	× 12	+220
-9	-6	Square root
+8	÷ 6	+105
-11	× 9	Cube root
???	???	???

HELPING PUPILS WITH STUDYING

Taken from Karen Knight on twitter (@KKNTeachLearn), something to help pupils develop studying techniques is asking if their revision is FLAT. It's hard finding a starting point when preparing for exams, and with this technique, it can make it just a little bit easier. So next time you say to a teacher "I don't know how to study!" Remember a good starting point is to make your revision FLAT.



Here are some more great websites to help with your studying!

https://corbettmaths.com/contents/

https://www.mymaths.co.uk/ (Ask your teacher for the login)

https://ccea.org.uk/key-stage-4/gcse/past-papers-markschemes