November 2017

Dear Member

New Newsletter News!

Huge thanks to Chris Pritchard for doing an excellent job compiling this newsletter; this job is now being taken up by Lucy Rycroft-Smith, newly appointed to the Publicity and Media Committee. Lucy would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris and to ask for your views on the newsletter and what you would like from it – please take a few minutes to answer some short questions here.

Jennie Golding's Presidential Address

Jennie Golding, Immediate Past President of the MA, gave an excellent Presidential Address at the Annual Conference in April which centred on the questions: '*What relationship does the "mathematics" experienced in classrooms have to the mathematics studied in universities, or used outside academia? What relationship should it, and could it, have, and how do we get there?*' You can now read the full text (with images) here.

BCME-9 Bursaries Available – But Time-Limited

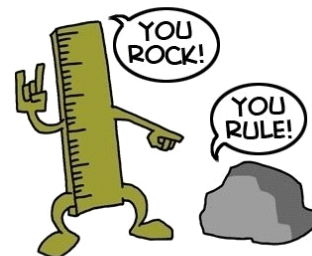The ninth British Congress of Mathematics Education takes place at the University of Warwick, 3-6 April 2018, replacing mathematics subject association conferences next year. If you are a mathematics teacher (from primary to A-Level) you may be eligible for a bursary of £150-£300 to help with attendance costs – but the deadline for applications is 30th November, so you will need to apply quickly! See here for further details. In addition, one bursary of £499 (early price) is available to cover the full residential cost of attendance for a first-time delegate at a BCME or MA conference who is a member of the MA and prepared to write a report on their experiences at the conference. Please email Keith Cadman keithcadman@blueyonder.co.uk (copied to Marcia Murray at senioradministrator@m-a.org.uk) with your name, contact details, role in education and a response to the question "How would attendance at this conference benefit you in performing your role?" by end of December 2017. This response will be used by the Branches Committee to select the successful applicant.

What Does the Future Hold? We Need You..

We would really like to hear your views on the suggestion of amalgamating the mathematics associations belonging to MMSA (AMET, ATM, MA, NAMA, NANAMIC). This is an exciting time and we feel it is important to take a measured and long-term approach, collecting as many member views as we can on the matter. The full proposal can be read here and we would appreciate it if you could take some time to give your thoughts on this here.

Branch Events in December

Sussex Branch, Tuesday 5 December, 4.30 pm
Lancing College, BN15 0RW
Chris Pritchard: 'Binary investigations'

Liverpool Branch, Monday 18 December, 2.00 – 3.00 pm
Venue TBC
Adam Townsend: 'The fluid dynamics of chocolate fountains'

Yorkshire Branch, Thursday, 7th December 2017, 7.00 for 7.30pm

University of Leeds, School of Mathematics, Room MALL 1, Leeds LS2 9JT
Tim Devereux and Alan Slomson: Christmas Quiz and Buffet

Please see website page for further details.

Christmas gift idea - an MA Gift Membership
If you have a friend, family member or colleague who is a maths teacher or a maths enthusiast, then membership of The Mathematical Association would make the perfect Christmas present!
Choose a category of membership (Primary £46; Secondary £62; Primary-Secondary Combo £88) to gift and you'll receive a gift pack containing a membership certificate and a set of Mathematical Association journals, all ready for wrapping! After the initial gift pack, subsequent publications will be sent directly to the member throughout the year. Members benefit from: resources and publications, professional development events, conferences and local branch meetings, opportunities to contribute to responses to government consultations, to join groups focusing on specific developments within mathematics education and to help develop policy and resources.
Visit the gift membership page to order a gift pack by 15th December 2017 on If you need help selecting the right membership category, please email office@ma.org.uk using 'Gift Membership' as the subject, or call 0116 221 0013.

New Espresso on Feedback for Mathematics Learners

CAMBRIDGE √Mathematics ESPRESSO

RESEARCH, FILTERED BY CAMBRIDGE MATHEMATICS

Cambridge Mathematics has published their Espresso (a concise review of the latest mathematics education research) this month on feedback. Each Espresso features an infographic, classroom implications and is fully referenced, with hyperlinks to research papers. The research question this month is 'What are the characteristics of effective feedback to mathematics learners?' and you can read it here.

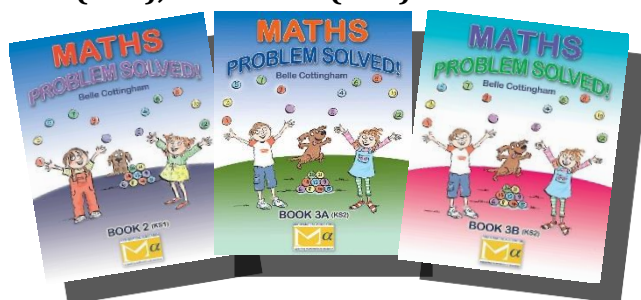## STEM Learning Classroom Display Competition
STEM Learning are inviting teachers to submit their classroom displays in either Primary or Secondary categories for a chance to win £100 of vouchers.

You just need to upload an image of your display, along with a title/topic and list of resources included. The competition closes on 7th December and you can enter [here](#).

Maths - Problem Solved! Books 2 (KS1), 3A and 3B (KS2)

Maths Problem Solved is a series of 10 problem solving books published by The Mathematical Association which is the professional body representing mathematics in the UK. Founded in 1871 it is committed to supporting mathematics in education, through materials of the highest standards that inspire, engage and enable pupils to succeed in this vital subject.

These books are for children who are happy to tackle direct questions but find it difficult to reason and problem solve – the great majority of pupils. The workbooks are built around two children, their puppy and real life situations. The idea is to draw out the underlying mathematics of the world around them and highlight the expert ways it can be used by parents and teachers with pupils throughout the Primary school. All the questions, strategies and procedures are based on the New Curriculum in Mathematics. Parents can trust these books, knowing that they offer sound, practical and expert help.

Members £5.59 / Non-members £6.99
Available in the MA Book Shop at http://members.m-a.org.uk/Shop

Budget Implications for Mathematics Education

The Chancellor Philip Hammond announced his 2017 Budget, including a 'boost' for maths, which comprises an allowance for secondary schools and sixth-form colleges of £600 for each additional pupil taking Mathematics or Further Mathematics at A-level and Core Maths; £27 million to expand the Teaching for Mastery programme into a further 3000 schools; £18 million towards specialist math schools and £8.5 million on a pilot to test innovative approaches to improving outcomes for GCSE Mathematics resits. Full details [here.](#)

Personal Membership Renewals 2018

Please look out for your membership 2018 renewal letters - they have been recently posted to you. Renew early (no later than 31st Jan 2018) to receive a £5 discount off your fee! (Please note that personal members who renew by direct debit will receive their notice letter in January 2018.)

Help Us To Understand Mathematical Ability

The Autism Research Centre, University of Cambridge, is currently running a study that is looking at the genetic links between mathematical ability and autism. We would like to invite members of the Mathematical Association who have a degree in mathematics, physics, computer science or engineering and who also have a diagnosis of an autism spectrum condition, to take part in this exciting new study.

All participants will be entered into a prize draw where you have the opportunity to win 1 of 5 £200 gift vouchers. If you would like to help our research please visit our website: https://maths.autismresearchcentre.net.

All we will require from you is a saliva sample (using a kit sent and returned by post) and for you to answer some web-based questions.

For additional information you can email the team at maths@medschl.cam.ac.uk.

Core maths, but not as you know it

Alex Bellos set a lovely maths puzzle this month, combining elements of truth-telling and common knowledge problems, entitled 'Can you solve it? This apple teaser is hard core'. The solution, if you need it, can be found here. Happy logic crunching!

Compiled by Lucy Rycroft-Smith