SHORT CIRCUIT

Coming Events:

May 18—National Mathematics Day (AAMT)

August 18   CMA Annual Conference. Australian Catholic University

August 27—September 2 National Literacy and Numeracy Week

November 9   The 314th day of the year—Pi day!

November 14   CMA Annual General Meeting

FROM THE EDITORS

To readers who are about to have a two-week break from teaching, have a relaxing time. And we wish you a brilliant term 2 if you did not get to read this until after the break.

The CMA committee is planning PD opportunities apart from the annual conference.

The first of these was presented by Erin Gallagher: *Fraction Calculators*—held at Hawker College with additional access via the internet.

The difficulties students often have with fractions calls to mind the issue of numeracy generally. For anyone wanting to understand how numeracy might be taught effectively across the curriculum, a handy starting point might be to read the latest edition of the AAMT journal *The Australian Mathematics Teacher* in which a series of action research projects from South Australia are reported on with useful insights.

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Short Circuit is jointly edited by Paul Turner and Jurek Paradowski.

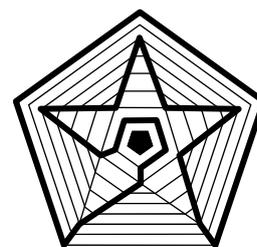Contributions can be sent by e-mail to

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0433 647 694
Alternatively, you can use the CMA mailing address:
PO Box 3572,
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We welcome your feedback.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the CMA includes automatic affiliation with the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers and a free AAMT journal.

Members are entitled to cheaper rates for CMA professional development events and the annual conference.

A membership application form for the CMA can be downloaded from our website:

www.canberramaths.org.au

Note:
Receipts for membership payments are normally sent out by e-mail. If you have paid for your membership but have not received a receipt or if your AAMT journal(s) have not been arriving, please advise CMA treasurer, Paul Turner, or a committee member.

CALL FOR CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

If you would like to be a presenter at the 2012 CMA Annual Conference, contact Erin Gallagher or any of the CMA committee members listed on the back page.

Presenting your teaching ideas, techniques and projects at the conference can be a rewarding experience.

We welcome your contribution.

Find us on Facebook

SHORT CIRCUIT

BOOK REVIEW

Young children learning mathematics -- A guide for educators and families
Robert Hunting, Judy Mousley and Bob Perry; ACER, Camberwell, Vic.

While based on theory and research findings, this text published by ACER provides in an accessible way a wealth of ideas and activities to engage young children in mathematics.

It assists both parents and early childhood educators in identifying the wealth of mathematical possibilities within a range of everyday activities. These activities are described, and the underlying mathematical concepts noted.

The authors emphasise the importance of language development in mathematical thinking, and the role that adult interactions play in this development. It provides a sound basis for parents and educators to be informed about the possibilities and the often unrecognised potential for stimulating young children's mathematical thinking.
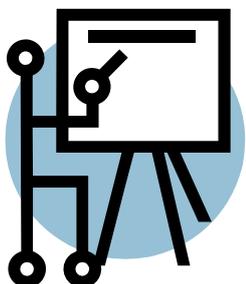
The book is attractively presented, with illustrations, a colourful cover and convenient size.

Theresa Shellshear

Stimulating young children's mathematical thinking
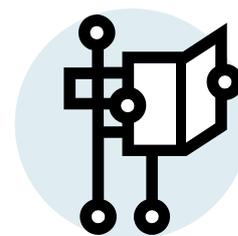
i-APPS WORTH A LOOK

Many i-apps have appeared recently that have mathematical bases and potential classroom uses. Readers may like to tell us about their own favourites. Here is one developed by the ANU's Professor Michael Barnsley, well known for his work in fractal geometry and its (artistic) image processing applications.

Frango Studios LLC—FRANGO CAMERA by Michael Barnsley

http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/frangocamera/id501260665?ls=1&mt=8

USEFUL LINKS

EMPHASiS, newsletter for the Scientists in Schools (SiS) program, and its sub-program Mathematicians in Schools (MiS). Latest edition:

http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au/downloads/newsletter/EMPHASiS_Issue_05_September_2011.pdf
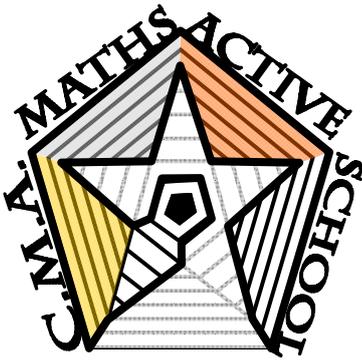
Australian Curriculum website: http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Mathematics/Curriculum/F-10

CSIRO: Maths by Email: http://www.csiro.au/resources/Maths-by-Email.html

AAMT: http://www.aamt.edu.au

Australian Bureau of Statistics project: Census at School http://www.abs.gov.au/censusatschool

ABS news: http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1330.0?OpenDocument

Mathematical Association of WA on-line quiz: http://www.havesumfunonline.com

MATHS ACTIVE SCHOOLS

Is yours a Maths Active School?

If not, talk to Jurek Paradowski about what it means and how it's done.
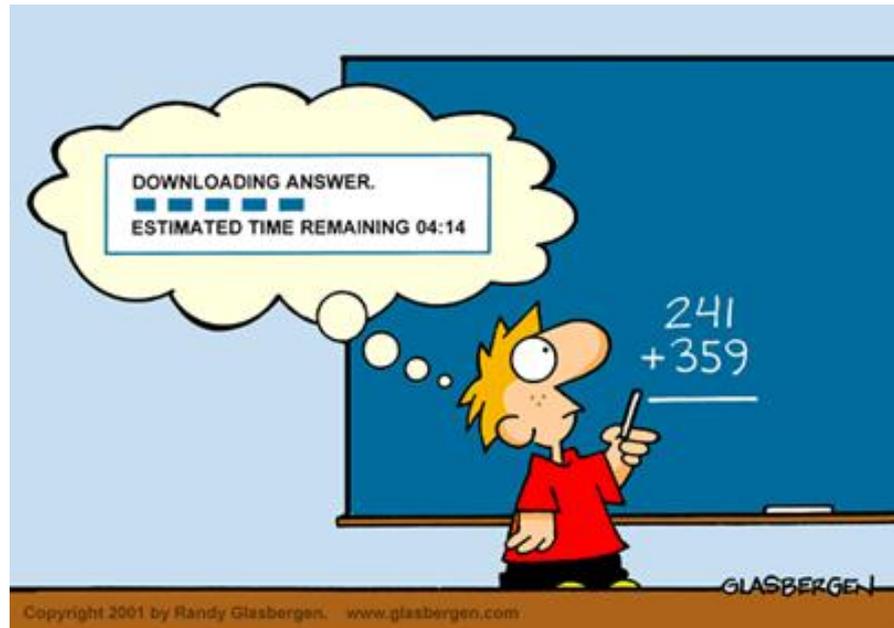
AAMT

KEEP INFORMED
Anyone, member or not, can receive emails from AAMT with news of events and developments. Contact Toby Spencer at the AAMT office (tspencer@aamt.edu.au) or go to http://www.aamt.edu.au/News for instructions. Alternatively, you can like AAMT's Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/aamtinc) or follow @aamtinc on Twitter (http://twitter.com/aamtinc)

FREE JOURNAL ARTICLES
Sample articles from each of AAMT's journals (Australian Primary Mathematics Classroom, The Australian Mathematics Teacher and Australian Senior Mathematics Journal) are available on the AAMT website. From the latest APMC and AMT you can now read:
- "What is a Reasonable Answer? Ways for Students to Investigate and Develop their Numbers Sense" by Tracey Muir
- "Time Limitations in NAPLAN Numeracy Tests" by Merilyn Carter Other articles from back issues are also available. Go to: http://www.aamt.edu.au/Professional-reading/Journals
Contact your State/Territory affiliated association to subscribe to a journal through your membership.

NATIONAL MATHEMATICS DAY - FRIDAY 18 MAY
2012 marks the centenary of the birth of Alan Turing, noted for his significant contributions to mathematics and computer science. Turing is remembered particularly for leading the codebreaking teams of Bletchley Park during World War II and the subsequent cracking of the Enigma Code. This year, National Mathematics Day will focus on codes and code breaking. See the AAMT website (www.aamt.edu.au) closer to the date for information and activities.

ABOUT THE CMA

The Canberra Mathematical Association (Inc.) is the representative body of professional educators of mathematics in Canberra, Australia.

It was established by, among others, the late Professor Bernhard Neumann in 1965. It continues to run - as it began - purely on a volunteer basis.

Its aims include

* the promotion of mathematical education to government through lobbying,

* the development, application and dissemination of mathematical knowledge within Canberra through in-service opportunities, and

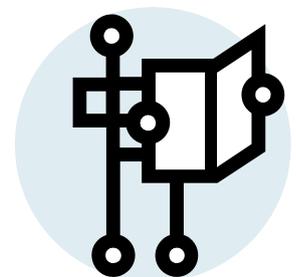* facilitating effective cooperation and collaboration between mathematics teachers and their colleagues in Canberra.

THE 2012 CMA COMMITTEE

President	Erin Gallagher	Hawker College
Vice Presidents	Jurek Paradowski	Calwell High School
	Sue Wilson	Australian Catholic University
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	Peter McIntyre	University of NSW—ADFA
	Igraine Ridley-Smith	Calwell High School

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