

## NSW Department of Education and Training Curriculum K12 Directorate

*Primary Maths Connections* is available as an RSS Feed and provides primary school leaders and teachers with updates and information relevant to the teaching of mathematics and numeracy in primary schools. To subscribe to this RSS Feed, go to <http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/primary/mathematics/rss/index.htm>

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**Click on coloured text to access hyperlinks.**



### Curriculum Support

During Semester 2 of 2009, the Mathematics unit at Curriculum K-12 directorate will be presenting workshops for teachers, supplementing the workshops provided by regional consultants. The workshops will provide support for teaching the Mathematics K-6 syllabus. For more information about these workshops, go to [2009 Professional learning activities - Semester 2](#).

A registration fee of \$110 (incl. GST) will be charged for each participant from government schools. This fee includes morning tea and lunch and all workshop materials. Teachers who wish to register for any of the advertised workshops need to be approved by the principal to attend the professional development workshop. Cost of teacher relief should be met through school professional learning funds. Registrations close five working days before the scheduled workshop. Teachers can register for workshops by going to the online [registration](#) page.



### National curriculum

The [Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority](#) has replaced the *National Curriculum Board*. Available on its website are the [key foundational documents](#) that will shape the Australian curriculum. [The Shape of the Australian Curriculum](#) provides a broad outline of the Australian curriculum and will be used to guide the writing in specific learning areas which, in accord with the Board's remit, start with English, Mathematics, the Sciences and History.

[The Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Mathematics](#) will guide the writing of the Australian Mathematics curriculum K-12. This paper was prepared following analysis of extensive consultation feedback to the [National Mathematics Curriculum Framing Paper](#) and decisions taken by the National Curriculum Board.

Writing teams and advisory panels have been selected from across Australia and the task of writing the Australian mathematics curriculum K-12 has now begun. It is anticipated that the mathematics K-10 curriculum will be available in digital and print format by July 2010.



### Resources



National Literacy and Numeracy Week is an Australian Government initiative conducted in collaboration with the Government, Catholic and Independent education sectors. It has been celebrated in all states and territories for the past ten years.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week focuses on literacy and numeracy practices from Kindergarten to Year 10 and celebrates successful literacy and numeracy projects and programs by schools and their local communities. The National Literacy and Numeracy Week website provides materials for teachers, parents and students, including video and audio files translated into six languages. Click [here](#) to explore the 2008 activities, available resources and archives.



## Best Start

### Best Start Lighthouse Project

This term, up to three schools within each region have been selected as Lighthouse Schools in the latest component of the Best Start initiative. These schools will provide networking opportunities whereby other schools can participate in a lively professional learning community.

### Literacy and Numeracy Leaders

So far in 2009, 18 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Literacy and Numeracy Leaders are working in schools across all regions. Regions are using a variety of models of delivery to best meet the needs of schools and to enhance teacher capacity in providing explicit literacy and numeracy programs in classrooms.

### 2009 Statistical Report

Three presentations are now available on the [Best Start software website](#) to support schools in the use of statistical reports: [Preparing to use the Best Start Statistical Report](#)

[Using the Best Start Statistical Report](#) and

[Using the Best Start Statistical Reports to inform teaching and learning](#)

As well, an Excel spreadsheet, which can be tailored to include school data, can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [Generating graphs from a CSV](#)

## Count Me In Too



The [Count Me In Too website](#) has been redeveloped and is now live.

The URL is <http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/countmein/index.htm>

On the Children's page, there are Learning objects for all stages, grouped by syllabus strands. Some of the new learning objects are *Sum Cloud Challenge*, *Butterfly Wings* and *Bubble Game*. These three learning objects require students to identify different addition combinations and are quite challenging. There are also some measurement and fractions activities that will support your mathematics program. Try these out and email Elaine Watkins, Early Numeracy Coordinator, at [Elaine.Watkins@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Elaine.Watkins@det.nsw.edu.au) to let us know what you think.

The Parents section also has small snippets taken from the *Parents Count Too* DVD, to encourage parents to engage their children in simple Mathematics activities in the home and when children are playing. There is also a link to the *Parents Count Too* pamphlets. These can be downloaded in 23 community languages.



## Counting On

Could your Year 4 students answer the following question correctly?

$$\begin{array}{r} 942 \\ -5\blacksquare7 \\ \hline 415 \end{array}$$

Adam did the subtraction problem above for homework but spilled some of his drink on it. One digit could not be read. His answer of 415 was correct. What is the missing digit?

Only 20% of Year 4 students could answer this question correctly in TIMSS 2007.

[Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study](#) is an internationally comparative assessment dedicated to improving teaching and learning in mathematics and science for students around the world and is carried out every four years at the fourth and eighth grades. Australia was one of the countries participating in 2007.

### Secondary teachers:



*Maths Links* is a monthly electronic update for mathematics faculty leaders and mathematics teachers. To receive *Maths Links*, send an email to [carolyn.mcginty@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.mcginty@det.nsw.edu.au) stating your name and school and that you would like to be placed on the *Maths Links* email group.