

Mathematics Links

NSW Department of Education and Training

Curriculum K-12 Directorate

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Email Alert

Welcome to *Mathematics Links* April and May 2007

Mathematics Links is an electronic update for mathematics faculty leaders and mathematics teachers informing on the latest additions to the *Curriculum Support* website, professional learning opportunities and links to relevant resources.

Curriculum Support updates

- **Stage 6 Draft Writing Brief Survey URGENT!**

The NSW Board of Studies has just released the Draft Writing Briefs for the new Stage 6 mathematics syllabus. The final version of the writing brief will provide directions to writers of the syllabuses. All mathematics teachers are encouraged to read and comment on both the strengths and weaknesses of the draft documents. **The consultation period is 1 May 2007 to 1 June 2007.** This gives us a very tight timeframe to work with.

Every school will receive a hard copy in the post in the next few days. For access to it immediately via the Internet click on this link

http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/syllabus2000_listm.html#macedonianc

Scroll down to the Mathematics syllabus documents and in the far right column you will find pdfs of the draft writing briefs. There are two sets and surveys – one for the Stage 6 Calculus-based courses and one for the Stage 6 Non-calculus-based courses. This is your opportunity to have an input into directions for a syllabus that aims to be implemented in Year 11 in 2010.

- **Mathsbusters**

What is Mathsbusters? Mathsbusters is a series of Stage 6 Mathematics, Extension 1 and 2 learning objects created for an innovative webstreaming trial conducted late last term. The webstreaming archive is available on the DET Intranet through CLI (Centre for Learning

Innovation) at http://videointeractive.cli.det.nsw.edu.au/archived/2007_29Mar_Maths/partA.htm It contains

video of a panel of teachers explaining some practical activities for teaching Stage 6 maths, with teachers at four different schools communicating via a chat feature. The learning objects are available for download through TaLE at <http://www.tale.edu.au/tale/index.aspx> by using the search word *Mathsbusters*.

There are 3 videos available titled Projectile Motion video, Bouncing ball video (for the topic of Series applications) and Balloon drop (for Ext 2 Mechanics). Teaching notes are provided on the web archive site in pdf form to use with the videos in the classroom.

- **More Learning Objects**

The Learning Federation (TLF) has released some more learning objects for Mathematics and Numeracy with a Chance and Data focus – Scatter Plots (Years 5-9) and Graph Investigator (Years 7-9). For more information click on [TLF](#).

- **HSC resources**

Are you looking for some ideas on teaching HSC mathematics? The *Curriculum Support for teaching in Mathematics 7-12* document sent to every mathematics teacher once a term had many articles over the years about teaching ideas. The attached Word document is a list of the articles that refer to teaching the new HSC mathematics. Find the faculty archive and look up

these articles and add the ideas into your teaching program.

Professional learning opportunities

The Mathematics Unit is offering the following workshops to supplement the workshops provided by regional consultants

- [Head teacher workshop](#) (2 days) Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 May, Northern Sydney Region
- [Patterns and algebra Stage 3 and 4 workshop](#), Monday 21 May, Armidale, New England Region
- [Supporting new scheme mathematics teachers](#), Tuesday 29 May, Inverell, New England Region
- [Follow-up Mathematics Head Teacher workshop](#), Tuesday 19 June, Northern Sydney Region
- [Follow-up Mathematics Head Teacher workshop](#), Friday 22 June, Dubbo, Western NSW Region

For more details click on the workshop.

Registration is an online process and is available from

http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/prolearn07/semester1/s_mathematics.htm

Until next month!

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