

What's the Maths?

What's the Maths? is our new whole school initiative to change the myths children and adults have around learning and especially mathematics learning. As a school community we have made the commitment to educate our students and families about their brains, their mindsets and the implications they have on learning.

At CWPS we pride ourselves on keeping up with educational research. We are keen to share this with your children and our community. The research done by Professor Carole Dweck has changed traditional views around learning. She has found through her studies that most people think they can do Maths or they can't! Or that they can do English or they can't - she says some people believe they were born with their intellectual capacity and that is all they will ever have. With recent advances in brain imaging, we can dispute this. We now have evidence about how the brain works, and this means we understand much more about the way our brain learns than we ever have!

Professor Carole Dweck found that when we are given a challenge and we struggle to understand it our brain's synapses begin to fire and grow. If we persist through difficulties in our learning our brains respond by growing and getting smarter.

What does this mean?

If you believe you can do something and you persist over time you will get better.

The 'WHAT'S THE MATHS' challenges have been developed to encourage the natural curiosity in all of us around mathematics and to encourage family discussion about mathematical concepts.

The challenge is not about "THE BEST" entrant but it is about the most effort that has gone into the task! (This does not mean parents do all the work for the student) it is about a combined, and joint family effort. Please do not hesitate to ask me any questions you have regarding the challenge and any of the above research.

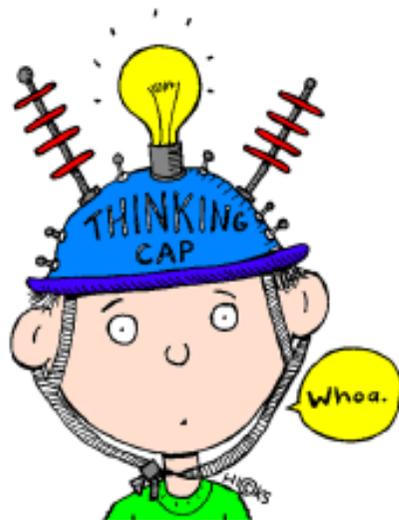
The 'TOILET ROLL CHALLENGE' is the first challenge. How many mathematical concepts can you find about a toilet roll?

This will be the student's homework for the time the challenge is on. Good Luck with our first challenge coming out today October 12th. Happy thinking.

Lynne Sunderland
Assistant Principal



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The purpose is to raise the profile of mathematics and its relevance to our everyday lives.

We encourage students and their families to see the maths in everything we do, from the length of a toilet roll to the cost of feeding a pet.

A mathematical challenge will be sent home regularly for family prizes to be won.

Look out for the first challenge coming your way soon.

So stay tuned for the first exciting challenge.....