




Mathematics

St Ninian's Mathematics Department Newsletter

Issue 1: 10/01/2017

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/>  [@StNiniansMaths/@MrCookeMaths](#)

Welcome

Bout ye! Welcome to the very first St Ninian's Mathematics Department Newsletter, offering an alternative view of the goings on inside and outside St Ninian's mathematics department.

We kick start our newsletter off with a fact about our new year 2017!

Did you know that 2017 is **prime**? I.e it cannot be composed of other numbers and therefore has no internal structure? Well it is!

The sum of the number 2017 is also equal to **10**...

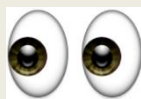


Today's launch date! And finally, 2017 is a deficient number, because the sum of its proper divisors (1) is less than itself. Its deficiency is 2016, and with that we thank all our students, colleagues and friends for a tremendous and fun packed year in 2016 and hope this year is just as enjoyable!

Mrs Robison's Puzzle

As you're probably aware.....

Mrs Robison has been running the Puzzle of the month for some time now, and what mathematical newsletter would be complete without a mathematical puzzle???



This month's brain ticker is this little beaut. Simply write your attempt on an A4 sheet, with your name class and teacher and pass it on to Mrs Robison by the end of the month!

The winner gets a little surprise...

This month's Puzzle!

There are some cows and Chickens in a field. Together they have 35 heads and 94 feet. How many cows?



How many chickens?



Student WIFI

Who said learning can't be fun eh?

Last month the school took a massive step forward in the enhancement of learning by introducing WIFI across the school!



That means you can now use your own handheld device to help be more productive in class!

Teachers across the school have been trained in games like Kahoot, plickers and mentimeter!

All to help keep maths fun and engaging..... as if it needed help to do that anyways.....



I went and ordered a carry out at my local Chinese last night, numbers 23, 41 and 67. But I had to bring them back... They tasted odd.

Maths In the news

Your teachers need it, your parents need it and you probably need it also, for everyone, words cannot espresso much we all love coffee, in fact we love it a latte..... Ok that was the last pun.



But very recently, mathematicians around the world have come together to find the one formula that makes the best cup of coffee.

Through some complex calculations using differentials and integrals, they have shone a light on the processes governing how coffee is extracted from grains in a filter machine.



This could help drinkers optimise their cuppa by applying a more precise- and scientific- approach.

The work is published in the SIAM Journal on Applied Mathematics , Dr Lee had this to say to the BBC.

"Our overall idea is to have a complete mathematical model of coffee brewing that you could use to design coffee machines, rather like we use a theory of fluid and solid mechanics to design racing cars."

To find out the details and types of mathematics used go to <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-37989169>

Prelim time!!

Christmas is over, Santa has delivered his presents and now we are into the business end of the season.

This January sees our first set of Preliminary exams for 4th years sitting national 5.

According to the guardian there is a science behind revision and techniques on how to do it properly. Psychology shows us a lot about how to improve our memory and avoid distractions.

So here are a few dos and don'ts to try in your revision to help you get the best out of your time.

Before you do any revision!

1. Eat Breakfast!!

It is estimated that around 27% of boys and 39% of girls skip breakfast some or all of the time. Simply a bowl of cereal will help you with your concentration and memory.

2. Put your phone away.

This is an obvious one.



During your revision!

3. Start early and spread it out.

Actors don't leave their rehearsals until the day before opening night, and athletes don't only train the day before a match. To commit something to memory takes time. Spread out your sessions to help with difficult topics.

4. Test yourself

Leading researchers in the field of memory have said that testing yourself regularly is one of the most efficient ways of recalling information.

5. Teach someone

After you have tested yourself, try teaching it to someone else! You'll be surprised how much more you understand a concept.



6. Ditch the Highlighters....

Despite being the favourite weapon of many students, studies have shown that highlighters isolate single pieces of information where, it is proven that we learn better by connecting it to other pieces of information. Often people highlight chunks of work to give the appearance of having worked hard, however it is of little value.

After your revision!

7. Sleep!!

Remember, sleep is important! You need around 7-9 hours each night. Get to bed early, turn off the phone and enjoy your night of rest.

