What Is The Difference Between Mathematics and Numeracy?

"Numeracy is closely related to mathematics. Without a solid grounding in mathematical concepts and procedures, there can be no numeracy. On the other hand, knowledge of mathematical concepts and procedures alone is not enough to guarantee numeracy. What mathematics is taught and how it is taught has an important bearing on the development of young people’s numeracy. Numeracy is the effective use of mathematics to meet the general demands of life at home, in paid work, and for participation in community and civic life.”

"Numeracy in practice: teaching, learning and using mathematics", Paper No. 18 June 2009, DEECD.

My name is Bryony Lowe and I have worked at Mordialloc College for the past three years as a Numeracy Coach and am very pleased to have become a part of the teaching teams at both Year 7 and 8. This year I have taken the role of Director of Numeracy for Years 7—10 and our goals as a team will be:

1. Using student data to target the needs of all our students in Maths.

All students in Years 7 and 8 have undergone diagnostic testing at the beginning of this term. This information is used to develop an idea of each student’s strengths and weaknesses in Maths, so that teachers are able to focus on students that need to develop their skills in particular areas.

We have also been provided with a program called Maths Doctor, free of charge, from Kinetic Education. This program has the ability to determine student’s strengths and weaknesses in Maths and to tailor a series of interactive lessons that cater for each individual student’s needs. This program will be available to all students in Year 7 and 8 during school hours. For the Year 9 program, we are currently trialling, and with a view to using, mangahigh.com

2. Deliver consistent and quality curriculum to all students, including the use of Literacy strategies in the Maths classroom.

As a Numeracy staff, we have a focus at junior levels on planning together, discussing our students’ progress and planning our teaching and learning based on the different abilities of students. We have been promoting problem solving strategies during first term and this will continue throughout the year as we try to develop their numeracy skills and their ability to talk and explain their learning in Maths.

A recent article regarding NAPLAN testing and problem solving highlights the importance of problem solving strategies and the application of their Maths knowledge.

“NAPLAN is not a content test. Often the questions fit the following types: multistep, working back-to-front, completing gaps or non-standard equations and non-standard questions about a range of topics such as fractions, shapes and place value.

(cont’d overleaf)
Drilling content and routine procedures is far less effective at helping improve NAPLAN scores than problem-based teaching.”
We are also endeavouring to include Literacy strategies in each unit of work to promote the use of Mathematical Language (which can be quite specific to Maths and confusing for students) in the classroom.

3. Monitor student learning and progress
We use a range of assessment strategies to assess students’ progress which can include diagnostic tests, problem solving tasks, common assessment tasks, groupwork tasks and learning journals. Students should be able to assess their own quality of work before they hand it in through the rubrics they are given for their tasks which identify the key elements they need to include in their tasks.
We have paid special attention to students being able to talk about their own progress, which means they know exactly where they are now, where they are going and how they will get there. We have introduced a Maths tracker to Year 7 and 8 students which detail their learning throughout and a unit of work and their documentation of evidence they use to reach the next step in their learning. If you would like to know what your son/daughter is doing in Maths at the moment and what their assessment tasks are – ask to see their Maths Tracker.

What can you do to help your child be successful in Maths?
Firstly, find out from your child’s teacher what areas he/she has difficulty with and then ask for some strategies/activities you can help them with at home. There are also a number of great websites that give students practice in Maths that are free:
- www.mathsplayground.com: some fun activities that may help in repetition of strategies;
- www.khanacademy.org, which gives tutorials on all topic areas of Maths from easy to difficult;
- www.coolmaths4kids.com: provides tutorials and games for skill practice.
Stay tuned for some more of these.

Bryony Lowe, Director of Numeracy Improvement Years 7—10

Calculators at Mordialloc College

Which calculator, and why?
Year 7 – 12 Maths (including SEAL doing year 7 to 10 subjects) as well as Science, VCE Physics, VCE Chemistry and VCE Accounting

A standard Scientific Calculator. We have booklisted the Casio FX 82 AU PLUS (approx $30) but most scientific calculators operate the same. It is assumed in all maths subjects that you have access to one. It is required equipment. These are a good, standard piece of readily available modern day equipment which is found in most workplaces. They reduce the tedium of calculation, without reducing the need to think, and mean that students can concentrate on learning the “advanced” skills which are needed in higher mathematics.

Year 12. Maths
It is assumed (by the VCAA Exam setting panels) in all Year 12 mathematics subjects (Further 3/4, Methods 3/4 and Specialist 3/4) that students have access to a CAS calculator, or similar as well as the standard scientific. These vary in price depending where they are bought from. They are approximately $200 new. These do vary a lot between brands in terms of how they operate. We have booklisted the TI-nspire CX CAS Touchpad Color (manufactured by Texas Instruments), as this is the type of machine our texts are designed for, and is the current release. Any older versions of the TI-nspire - either a black calculator or a grey and white one which have black and white rather than colour displays, all use the same operating system and are fine. Many students have previously purchased or inherited a TI 89. These are acceptable, but they lack some of the features of the TI-nspire.

Year 11. Maths
General Philosophy – get the calculator that they are going to use in Year 12 so that they can get used to it.
- Foundation Maths – standard scientific.
- Advanced General Maths (mainly Year 10 SEALs who are all going to do Year 12) – TI-nspire as well as scientific
- Year 11 Math Methods – TI-nspire as well as scientific
- Year 11 General Maths - students need a standard scientific calculator to do the course, but they are allowed to have a TI-nspire as well. If/when they get to the point when they know that they are choosing Further maths in Year 12 they are advised to get a TI-nspire so that they can practise using it. ie if they know that they are not doing Yea12 Maths, stick with the scientific. If they are not sure, stick with the scientific until they are certain. When they make their minds up and wish to purchase one, they are available from a number of retailers.

Where do you get them from?
- Both calculators are booklisted.
- Many other retailers, both in shops and online in Australia, also stock them. I bought one for my daughter from a firm called “Calculator King” in South Melbourne. There are other retailers out there.
- Past students may have them for sale second hand

Does the Mordialloc College Maths Coordinator regard the TI-nspire calculators as a bit expensive?
Yes – although many do come with a three year warranty, and they can be handed on or sold, or taken to university for some courses.

Does the Mordialloc College Maths Coordinator particularly like CAS calculators (the expensive ones) in general?
No – but they are really useful for some calculations, and more to the point, it is assumed (as mentioned already) you have them if doing Year 12 Maths, so his opinion really doesn’t matter.

Still confused or more information or advice needed?
Ask me, either via child/student, or have them bring me contact details - email works best.

Peter Collins,
Mathematics KLA Leader
Family Law Network Australia (FLNA) was established as a free information resource and referral service in the event of needing assistance with family law issues. Family Law Network Australia provides information of a general nature only and does not constitute legal advice or replace the services of a family law lawyer. We aim to make Family Law Network Australia your first point of call and the one stop shop for all things family law. We will connect you with the right professional to help you and your family resolve your family law issues. Organisations and professionals featured on Family Law Network Australia as our VIP service providers have been handpicked and we recommend that you use their services. We selected them for the top-quality skills, service and value they provide to clients in their area of family law expertise.

http://familylawmattersaustralia.com.au

We're all doing the Worlds Greatest Shave!

Join us on Monday, 25 March at lunchtime
Miss Amelia Hargreaves, SRC Coordinator

‘Earn & Learn’ resources have arrived
Thanks to all members of the school community who supported the College in last year’s Woolworth’s ‘Earn & Learn’ promotion. We have just taken delivery of 94 new books for the Hub. They will be processed and available to students very soon.
Miss Penny Trumble, Director of Resourcing

Inaugural Book Fair
Students and staff generously supported the Hub’s first Book Fair. We were able to purchase $160 of books to put on our shelves as a result. There will be another Book Fair in early November, just in time for Christmas present buying.
Miss Penny Trumble, Director of Resourcing

Keen Readers Wanted!!!
Students from Years 7-10 are invited to participate in the 2013 Premiers’ Reading Challenge. Registration forms are available in the Hub. Once signed by a parent they should be returned to Ms Trumble as soon as possible. Each participant will be given log in instructions and a password so that they can enter their completed books online. Books which are on the reading lists are housed in special spinners in the Hub and have a blue sticker on the spine.
Kingston Library hosts a bookclub for 12 to 16 year olds. It meets monthly at Cheltenham Library, food and drink is provided and it’s FREE!!! Activities include author visits, book buys, book and film discussions. Pick up a bookmark from the Hub with the dates for this year.

Have you ever thought how good it would be to be able to:
Learn what it’s like to live in another country?
Learn a new language and experience a different culture.
If you are in years 9, 10 or 11 now
Rotary Youth Exchange can offer this and more.
Contact; Stuart McDonald, ph 5962 4694
www.rotaryyouthexchange.org.au

HOUSE ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2013
8.55-9.25AM
‘ATHLETICS

BLUE HOUSE (YERLONGA): Learning Centre
GREEN HOUSE (KALURA): Hall
RED HOUSE (IWALA): Enquiry Zone
YELLOW HOUSE (BUNURONG): CS-006EL FORUM - BOYS

ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND / COLLECT A PERMISSION FORM
Newsletter No. 6

Edithvale-Aspendale Junior Football Club

The Family Club

Edithvale-Aspendale Junior Football Club has opened registrations for season 2013 (refs to ad 6)

EAJFC will be holding a further registration session:
Friday 22nd March 2013, from 4.30 – 6.00pm at Regents Park

Online Registrations are open for those that have previously registered with EAJFC, but you can come along and drop in your registration form (re-registrations don’t need to complete the VCFL form) and payment on the day.

Now Registrations are welcome to attend – you can hand in your forms and payment (please remember to bring a copy of your birth certificate for all NEW registrations).

Mouthguards will be ready for collection (for those that had fittings on 26th Feb 13).

Sportsafe Australia will also do fittings for those that missed out at the last session (these will be ready prior to round 1).

All information regarding registering your child (including the forms required) can be found on our website www.eajfc.com.au
EAJFC Registrar can be contacted on registrar@eajfc.com.au

Stingrays

ASPENDALE STINGRAYS SOCCER CLUB

THE ASPENDALE STINGRAYS ARE URGENTLY LOOKING FOR JUNIOR SOCCER PLAYERS FOR THE UPCOMING 2013 SEASON

PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING TEAMS

U14 BOYS (BORN 1999/2000)


For more information please go to the Club’s website
www.aspendalesc.com
or contact the Club’s Registrar via email on registrar@aspendalesc.com

JOIN ONE OF MELBOURNE’S MOST FAMILY FRIENDLY SOCCER CLUBS

OBrien Real Estate

Twilight Fair

March 15th 2013 – 3.30pm – 7.30pm

Supported by: Edithvale Physiotherapy, Almost Famous Photography, Chelsea Longreach Physiotherapy, G & S and Son Commercial Plumbing, Commonwealth Bank, Donna Baser, M & Partners

Animal Farm & Jumping Castle
Show Bags & Lucky Dips
Cake Stall & Market Stalls
Mini Golf & Craft Activities
Egg & Spoon Race & Sack Race
BBQ & Sushi

Chelsea Primary School

RAFFLE drawn on the DAY