



# PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

OF THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES, INC.

**July**

**2008**

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## Calendar 2008

### July

- 25 Investigating: Mathematics entries due at MANSW Office

### August

- 1 Newsletter 6 copy to Editor  
14 Primary Inservice *Measurement Matters* at Santa Maria del Monte, Strathfield.

### September

- 2 Investigating: Mathematics Award Ceremony  
19 – 21 Annual Conference

### October

- 16 Annual General Meeting, MANSW Office  
30 Primary Inservice *Linking maths to life* at William Clarke College, Kellyville.

some of your colleagues. Our conference committee has ensured that participants with a special interest in the early years of schooling will be well catered for. This includes the interesting keynote speakers, engaging session presenters, exhibitors showing off the latest materials, and opportunities to network and share ideas during a fabulous lunch. For more particulars, or a registration page to download, please consult the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au). This annual event has filled to capacity in recent years so it is wise to register well before the closing date.

The MANSW PAM inservice courses are listed on the MANSW website and you'll find a reference to the Term 3 activity 'Measurement matters' listed for 14<sup>th</sup> August. If you haven't been to Luna Park, maybe this is the year that you go. Hop on a coach or a train, bring your Year 5 or Year 6 students with you and let them 'Learn as they Ride'. It's a fun excursion, the material supports Primary Mathematics content and it is set down for particular days in August, September, October and November. In order to secure the date that suits your school, check the MANSW website, and apply. If you just want to chat about it first, contact our friendly office staff on 9878 1487.

## From the President

Term 3 is that time when we look forward to the MANSW Annual Conference. We will meet at the Novotel, located on Northbeach in Wollongong, from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of September. I hope you can attend, or at least

Our Mathematics colleagues in secondary school are still talking about the new Stage 6 courses. This is because the consultation period ended last term. The writers are busy at the Office of the Board of Studies finalising syllabus documents and support materials. Important decisions involving technology and assessment are being made. Naturally everyone

wants to know what's definitely in and what's definitely out of the new syllabus now. They'll just have to be patient. All the documents and decisions are due out in November or December this year. Senior schools have 2009 to prepare for implementation, with the first year 11 classes under the new syllabus in 2010

Your newsletter was posted on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July, I hope you received it in time to be reminded to send off your school's entries to the 2008 Investigating Mathematics competition, because the advertised closing date is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July. This competition, which accepts entries from Preschoolers to students in Year 12 attracts outstanding original pieces of work, from individuals, from small groups and from whole classes. Like the Luna Park excursion and several others amazing activities, it is organised by the Student Services branch of our wonderful MANSW executive, everyone a volunteer.

If you would like to join the MANSW executive or if you would like to contribute in some other way, please email our Professional officer Bernice Beechey, her email address is [Office@mansw.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Office@mansw.nsw.edu.au) or telephone her on 9878 1487 and make enquiries. You will be welcomed warmly. Bernice can also help you with enquiries concerning the Annual General Meeting which will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> October, at the office in Kent Road. All current members are most welcome to attend and I look forward to meeting you.

DAVID KEANAN BROWN,  
President

Look on the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au) to see if the presentation notes from last year's conference are available for the sessions you are interested in.

## Member of the Month

This month's lucky winner is Barbara Gunn of Putney. Congratulations Barbara, please contact the MANSW Office to claim your book voucher prize.

### **2008 MANSW Conference at Novotel, North Wollongong 19-21 September 2008**

Remember to put the conference into your school calendar and professional development budget.

## Student Services

### Luna Park

#### **Change of Days Available for Mathematics at Luna Park**

Are you considering a Mathematics excursion to Luna Park? Please take into account that Luna Park will now only be open on Mondays and Fridays during school term until the end of the year so look at your School Calendar to find a suitable date. We have added extra Mondays and Fridays to the available dates so look at the included flyer to choose a date to suit your students.

## Investigating Mathematics

Your students should be putting their finishing touches to their entries and you will be organising for your in-school judging to choose your winners in each category to send to MANSW by 25 July for the State judging.

## ITEC

The Initial Teacher Education Committee (ITEC) carries responsibility on behalf of the NSW Teachers' Institute's Quality Teaching Council to identify and manage ITEC panels to review applications for the approval of programmes. ITEC appoints panels for the purpose of assessing programmes.

In the April Newsletter there was an item calling for ITEC Panel members. They are now calling for nominations for curriculum specialists for the panels.

It would be expected that a nominee would have knowledge of, and understanding of the application of, the Institute's Professional Teaching Standards.

In addition the desirable criteria of one or more of the following are:

- Expertise in and/or relevant postgraduate studies in curriculum design and development
- Participation in curriculum development processes, and syllabus, assessment and examination committees of the Board of Studies NSW OR employment at an education system level working with Board of Studies NSW curriculum
- Experience working with a teacher education institution and pre-service teachers; for example, a university program/course advisory committee, or in initial teacher education research.

Further details may be found at [www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au](http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au). Enquiries can be made through John Healey (Primary/Early Childhood) and Rosemary King (Secondary) at the NSW Institute of Teachers

## National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2008

**1-7 September**

Join schools across Australia and get your students collecting, sharing and investigating data! This year, the sixth annual *Reach for the Stars* project will see students making and testing predictions about the distribution of coins thrown onto a target.

For more information about this popular free annual project for all students from pre-school to secondary go to [www.nlnw.edu.au](http://www.nlnw.edu.au) where you can register online.

### Primary Program

This year we have been fortunate to have a venue in a different part of Sydney for each of our in-services. The Term 3 event, *Measurement matters*, will be presented at Santa Maria Del Monte at Strathfield on 14 August.

*Measurement matters* will focus on the key aspects of learning to measure as described in our *Mathematics K-6 Syllabus*. These aspects include an understanding of how to repeat or iterate units of measure, the critical skills of choosing and using measurement tools and units, the importance of developing measurement language and the practiced skill of estimating measures. The afternoon will consist of a plenary address, followed by workshops to address each stage.

Reminder: the Term 4 inservice, *Linking maths to life* will be presented at William Clarke College on Thursday 30 October.

DIANE McPHAIL  
Primary Program Manager

