

Calendar Terms 2–3, 2008	
<b>May</b>	
2	Talented Students' Day : expressions of interest due
7	Long Inservice: Mathematics Extension 1 finishes
16	Newsletter 4 copy to Editor
20	Long Inservice: Mathematics Extension 2 finishes
22	PAM inservice Fun and Games Caroline Chisholm College, GlenmorePark
23	National Mathematics Day
23	Mathsearch entries due at MANSW Office
23	MANSW Stage 6 Forum—General Mathematics Courses
30	Investigating: Mathematics entry forms and fees due
<b>June</b>	
6	HSC Lectures Day, ticket applications due
11	Queen's Birthday
12	Teaching with Technology Macquarie University North Ryde
13	Talented Students' Day : lecture choices and fees due
14	MANSW Stage 6 Forum—Calculus Courses
27	Newsletter 5 copy to Editor
<b>July</b>	
7	HSC Lectures
25	Investigating: Mathematics entries due at MANSW Office
25	Talented Students' Day, UTS Broadway
<b>August</b>	
1	Newsletter 6 copy to Editor
<b>September</b>	
19–21	Annual Conference

Sydney, please consider attending the Forums to 'Have your say' about the draft courses. General courses: 1.30–4.30 p.m. Saturday 24 May; Calculus courses 1.30–4.30 p.m. Saturday 14 June.

Also in Term 2 we have the second National Mathematics Day, on Friday 23 May. This is an initiative of the AAMT and you will find details about the day, with suggested activities, by visiting

[www.aamt.edu.au/AAMT-in-action/Annual-activities/National-Maths-Day](http://www.aamt.edu.au/AAMT-in-action/Annual-activities/National-Maths-Day).

I encourage you to visit this site and use some of the suggested activities to help raise the profile of Mathematics in your school community. Before the term is out we will have experienced the National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This affects students enrolled in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. The old basic skills test (SNAP) has been phased out and we can expect the new tests to provide data on student performance across a number of levels of achievement. There are sample questions available as well as information about calculators at the website:

[naplanstage.curriculum.edu.au/home\\_page.html](http://naplanstage.curriculum.edu.au/home_page.html).

Please encourage your colleagues to visit this site. You may even encourage your students to do so if they have access to the internet.

The 2008 conference will be special. MANSW's intrepid Conference Convener, Scott Lankshear, and his conference committee are organizing a fabulous event in Wollongong this year. Scott is adamant that the keynote speakers will entertain and inform both primary and secondary teachers, so he has booked speakers that will achieve this goal. Last year's conference filled and this year we are expecting the same, so please get in early with your bookings. The dates are 19–21 September; more details on the MANSW website. Complete conference details will be available soon, but this is the time to decide if you would like to share some of your classroom practices with others. Perhaps you would like to get a colleague or two and make a joint presentation. If you speak with others who have presented you will find that it is

## From the President

Welcome back to Term 2, 2008. I hope that you managed to do all those things you had planned for your break, and that includes having a well-earned rest after Term 1. In Term 2 we have plenty to look forward to. First, you should have a copy of the draft syllabus for the five new Stage 6 course. If not please try to locate it urgently. Now, what to do about the syllabus? Well, if you are located within travelling distance of the MANSW Office, which is in the grounds of Kent Road Public School, cnr Kent and Herring Roads, Eastwood,

one of the most rewarding experiences that teachers can be involved in outside of their classroom. If you don't have anyone at your school to talk with about a possible presentation, please telephone our office on 02 9878 487 and discuss your ideas with our Professional Officer, Bernice Beechey. She will be very supportive and informative, and you will then know how to shape your ideas into a successful session.

Finally I should like to mention the recently released report entitled *Maths? Why Not?* prepared for the Department of Education, Employment, and Work Relations, dated March 2008. You can locate the full report at [www.deewr.gov.au](http://www.deewr.gov.au) on page iv and v of the Executive Summary; you'll find some interesting findings with strong implications for mathematics teaching and learning in primary and middle Years. I would love to read your opinions—in favour or against—on the findings of this report. Please write an email, to me, care of MANSW, and make the subject 'Maths? Why Not?'. The address is [office@mansw.nsw.edu.au](mailto:office@mansw.nsw.edu.au).

DAVID KEANAN-BROWN

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## Secondary Program

### Teaching with Technology

Thursday 12 June, 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Macquarie ICT Innovations Centre,  
Building C5B, Macquarie University  
Balaclava Road, North Ryde

This full-day event will provide a range of opportunities to observe and explore different technologies. Each session will be based around a different type of technology. Session One, will be using graphics calculators. Teachers will have a choice on the day between Casio or Texas Instruments workshops. Session Two will explore interactive whiteboards, with a workshop choice between SMARTboards and Promethean ACTIVboards. Session Three will be looking at interactive and other online resources available through websites such as TALE and The Learning Federation. Teaching and learning ideas will be explored for use in normal classrooms with minimal technology.

**Cost:** \$100 (members) / \$140 (non-members) The price includes morning-tea and lunch.

**Closing-date:** Friday 29 May 2008

Prior registration with payment is required A registration form is available on the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au).

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**Copy for Newsletter No. 4 is due by 16/5.  
Publication date is 2/6.**

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## Student Services

Have your students started talking about their ideas for their entries in **Investigating: Mathematics**? The full brochure (blue) with details was in the last newsletter and is on the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au).

If you have Extension 2 students in Year 12 who would benefit from attending **Talented Students' Day** at UTS, Broadway, on Friday 25 July, send an Expression of Interest to the MANSW Office so that you will be sent the registration forms and details of all of the talks. This is an opportunity for your able students to see and hear how mathematics is being used at university and also to attend a lecture on one of the syllabus topics.

Our very popular **MANSW HSC Lectures** will be offered again this year, on Monday 7 July at the University of Sydney. There will be lectures for at all levels of mathematics from General Mathematics to Mathematics Extension 2. Students may choose to attend a two and a half hour session in the Mathematics course they are studying. These lectures are intended as revision and examination preparation; students should have had some school experience of the topic they choose to attend. A detailed flier with registration forms is included with this newsletter and can also be found on the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au). Do get your students' applications in promptly as places in these lectures are limited and fill quickly.

**Mathematics and Luna Park** is a fun excursion where students 'Learn as they Ride'. Teachers' notes and student worksheet masters are supplied with syllabus-relevant work to suit all levels from Stage 2 to Stage 6. When we send you the whole pack of notes you can choose exactly which activities are most suited for the level of your particular group. You can organize for your class or a whole year group to extend their mathematics experience to a real-life fun situation. A brochure with full details and registration form is included with this newsletter.

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## ITEC

One of the foremost responsibilities of the Institute of Teachers is to assure both the profession and the community of the quality of teacher training.

The Institute does this through the review and assessment of initial teacher-education programs offered by providers of teacher education. The approval process ensures that the programs meet the requirements of the Professional Teaching Standards at the Graduate Teacher level. A key

component of the approval process is the **Initial Teacher Education Committee (ITEC) Panels**.

The Institute is seeking applications from interested classroom and executive teachers to participate on ITEC Panels and to work with universities and other tertiary providers to review and assess initial teacher education programs.

Each panel will include a practising teacher and an executive teacher, experts in initial teacher education, a curriculum specialist, and the Manager, Initial Teacher Education, or other Institute staff as executive officer. Appropriately skilled and qualified teachers will receive training as panel members.

Participation on a panel will be as required, but typically will be one to two full days.

Further details including essential criteria and application form may be found at [www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Working-with-the-Institute.html](http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Working-with-the-Institute.html)

The contact person is at the NSW Institute of Teachers is Rosemary King.

- New questions have been added for international comparisons.
- Many questions have been retained so comparisons can be made with 2006—beginnings of longitudinal studies.

More details at [www.abs.gov.au/censusatschool](http://www.abs.gov.au/censusatschool).

### ***Teaching for Uncertain Futures* available free from Teaching Australia.**

*Teaching for Uncertain Futures* from Teaching Australia is the work of teachers and principals from around Australia who were involved in a national scenario-building project focusing on the question: ‘What will the Australian teaching profession have to do to be successful in 2030?’.

The Open Book scenario-builders created four quite different alternative worlds for 2030. They found that important aspects of teaching and the teacher’s role—optimism and commitment, motivating students, skilled use of technologies, close community partnerships and collegiality—among others remain constant across quite different imagined futures. *Teaching for Uncertain Futures* provides a catalyst for schools to plan and reflect on how they can best prepare students for the future. It is a great starting-point to heighten awareness of future influences and to explore ways in which the teaching profession can maximize the opportunities of the future, for students and for the nation. *Teaching for Uncertain Futures* is available from Teaching Australia, email [info@teachingaustralia.edu.au](mailto:info@teachingaustralia.edu.au)

### **UWS Pilot Question-and-Answer Program for teachers in Western Sydney**

The University of Western Sydney is setting up a pilot program where UWS mathematicians provide a question and answer service for mathematics teachers in an online environment. The sorts of questions they can help with might include mathematics questions related to any of the calculus-based courses or questions in relation to an application of mathematics. Any teachers in Western Sydney who are interested in participating in this pilot program should email Dr Leanne Rylands at ([l.rylands@uws.edu.au](mailto:l.rylands@uws.edu.au)), including your current school name, your MANSW membership number, and any mathematics questions you currently have. Places in this pilot program will be limited—so don’t delay!

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## Items of Interest

### **CensusAtSchool 2008**

The second data collection is now open for your students to submit a Questionnaire. This is a free resource from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. In 2006 over 112 000 students did so. This has provided a wonderful resource of a large database of relevant, up-to-date data about Australian students, free online. A wealth of wonderful real-life data to analyse in your classes. Students engage with data about themselves and their peers so having as much data as possible available from your area is to their advantage. So:

- Have all the classes in your school complete a survey, not just your class.
- Encourage your students and other local schools to submit the questionnaire.
- Don’t forget to include those students who will use the data next year!

**Schools that registered in 2006** can use the same School Participation Number (SPN). Please call 1800 623 273 if you have forgotten your SPN or to update your contact details.

**New schools can register** by completing and returning the Registration Form found at [www.abs.gov.au/censusatschool](http://www.abs.gov.au/censusatschool).

### **A new questionnaire for 2008**

- The use of sliders has been introduced to provide more continuous data.

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### **Member of the Month**

This month’s lucky winner is Ann McPherson of New Lambton. Congratulations, please contact the MANSW Office to claim your book-voucher prize.

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# INVESTIGATING: MATHEMATICS 2008



## For students from Preschool to Year 12

### TIMELINE

<b>Late Term 1 or early Term 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appoint Investigating: Mathematics contact person</li><li>• Promote student involvement</li><li>• Start students thinking about their entries</li><li>• Students begin work on their investigations</li></ul>
<b>1 June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Entry forms and entry fees due at MANSW Office</li></ul>
<b>Late June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Judging of investigations at school level</li></ul>
<b>25 July</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed investigations due at MANSW Office</li></ul>
<b>August</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NSW Winners announced</li></ul>
<b>2 September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Display of entries and award ceremony</li></ul>
<b>October</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NSW entries submitted in national competition</li><li>• Judging of 2008 National Mathematics Talent Quest</li></ul>
<b>November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National winners announced. National awards presented.</li></ul>

**For full information and entry forms**  
find the blue brochure that was in the March newsletter or  
go to the MANSW website [www.mansw.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mansw.nsw.edu.au) to download it.