



GRANGE ACADEMY MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 151
21/2/2011

WELCOME

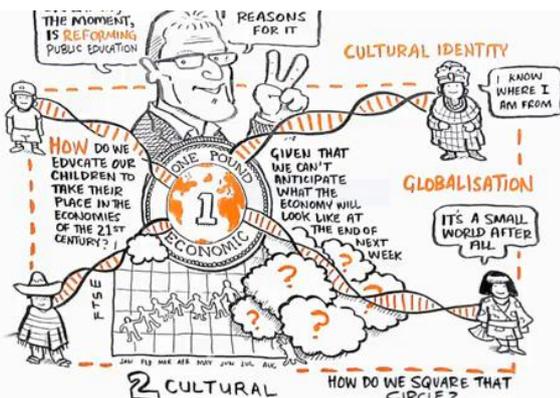
Hope you had an incredible February holidays. I did. Thought I'd kick off this issue with some videos I saw over the past couple of weeks which challenged and inspired me (for different reasons).

1 First up, the brilliant Dan Meyer. He's created the following video as his entry for the Apple Distinguished Educator award. It's only 90secs -you should check it out:



<http://vimeo.com/19507645>

2 Second, this video is an animate incorporating a talk given at the RSA by Sir Ken Robinson, world-renowned education and creativity expert and recipient of the RSA's Benjamin Franklin award. I love this video because it contains loads of thought-provoking ideas about how we deliver education, but also (and this is just as important for me) the video is illustrated in an amazingly visual way. It's definitely attention-grabbing and exemplifies the creative thinking being talked about in the video. Even if you disagree entirely with his views on education provision, standardised testing, ADHD, teaching kids in batches, paperclips ...it's worthy of 11 minutes of your time.



www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcdGpl4U

DEPARTMENTAL MEETING

Our next DM is tonight.

MILK ROTA

The next 4 folk on the milk rota are:

21 st February	Elaine Roberts
28 th February	Nadia
7 th March	Chris
14 th March	Aimee



S5/6 REPORTS

The S5/6 reports must be completed by this Friday 25th February.

S3 REPORTS

The S3 reporting period starts today and these must be completed by Friday 4th March.

PARENTS' EVENING

The S2 Parents' Evening is this Thursday 24th, from 5pm-7pm.

WORLD MATHS DAY



*Uniting the World
in Numbers!*

It's time for the annual World Maths Day- next Tuesday 1st March is the official day but you can register your kids and they can start practising against opponents from across the globe! All the info can be found at

www.worldmathsday.com.

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Grange are hosting a Global Citizenship day on Thursday of this week. Leaders and teachers from schools from across central Scotland will be coming to get a sample of what Grange are doing and to share ideas they have. Aimee and I will be presenting a few examples of good practice using some video footage, photos, live interviews with pupils as well as our own boring chat!

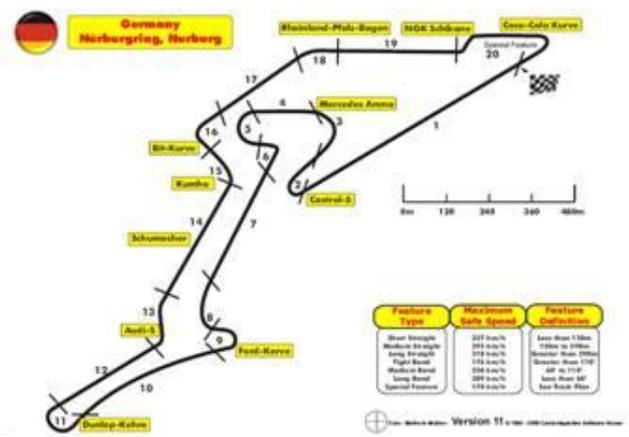
MERITS

This week merits go to S5/6 for *regular use of homework diary, ability to work well independently & cooperation.*

TRANSITION WORK

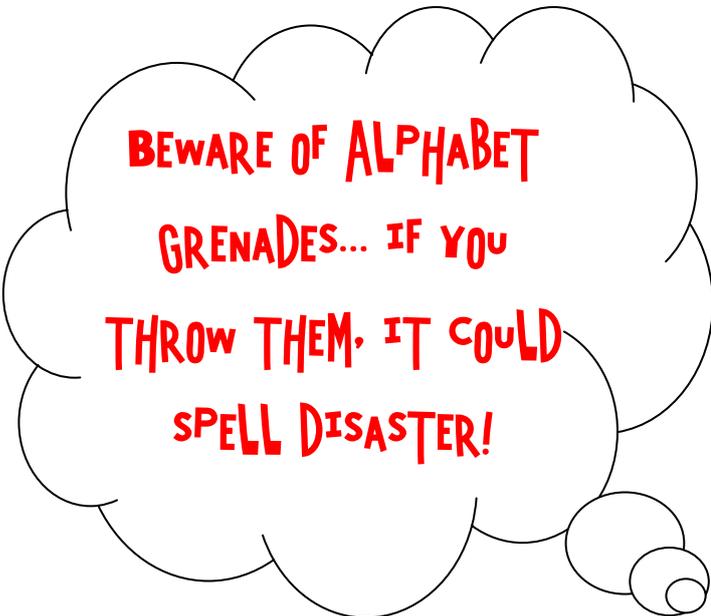


Starting very soon, Annanhill Primary 7 classes will be in the department every Tuesday period 2 and Wednesday period 3. I'm going to be taking them through the Maths in Motion package for the first few weeks (although David Taylor is the real expert if you watch the recently published HMIe video on Maths in Motion: www.journeytoexcellence.org.uk/videos/mathsinmotion.asp).



Following that, I hope to deliver some Maths Citizenship lessons (ably assisted led by Aimee).

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK



WEEKLY PUZZLE

Wow- last week's puzzle produced probably the widest *or should that be wildest?* range of answers I have ever seen. My good friend Stuart Campbell MSYP (Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament representing young people like him with Down Syndrome) guessed the answer 14. This is closer to the correct answer than Dr Walker's effort: 500,000,500,000. Don't despair, Alan: you weren't the only one to misunderstand the question. But top marks go to Arran McCutcheon who figured out that if you list the numbers 0-999999 in two columns, one ascending and one descending:

- 0 999999
- 1 999998
- 2 999997
- 3 999996
- 4 999995
-

The sum of the digits in each row is 54, and there are 1 million rows, giving a total of 54 million for the two columns. Thus the total for one column is 27 million, and adding 1 for the number 1,000,000 itself gives a final sum of **27,000,001**.

Bonus factoid: In *Number Freak* (2009), Derrick Niederman notes that if you write out the first 500,000,000 positive integers, you'll write the figure 1 precisely 500,000,000 times.

THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE:

In the 1890s an eminent Scot began to publish short popular science articles under an assumed name, for "the fun of seeing if he [could] make another reputation for himself."

He succeeded, publishing three articles in the *National Geographic* before the secret leaked out.



The pseudonym was H.A. Largelamb. Who was the man?

FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER...

Let me know of any news/items/lesson ideas to share by Friday lunchtime. Chris