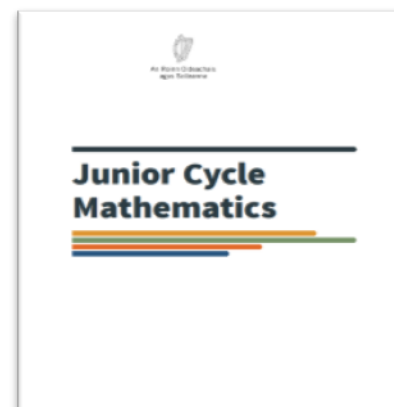


Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the JCT Mathematics Newsletter. The 2018/2019 academic year sees the introduction of the [Junior Cycle Mathematics Specification](#) to your classrooms. A short [video](#) introducing the specification is available for teachers, students and parents. Check out www.jct.ie/maths where you will find the key documents that will assist in the implementation of the Mathematics Specification.

We have been taking feedback from our Associates to see how the specification is translating into practice and to determine how we can continue to support teachers in 2018/19.



The Year Past

The last school year saw the roll-out of CPD 2017/18 by the JCT Mathematics Team. Over the course of the year we provided Professional Learning Experiences to 2986 teachers in clusters and Education Centres. Support was also given to over 300 teachers through our Webinar.

Webinars

The first webinar explored how the process of unpacking learning outcomes helps identify the key learning for students. The development of Units of Learning and teacher collaboration was also discussed. A screencast of the webinar is on the website to view at any time.

<https://www.jct.ie/maths/resources>. We are now in the process of designing our second Webinar.

Further details will follow in the coming weeks.

STE(A)M

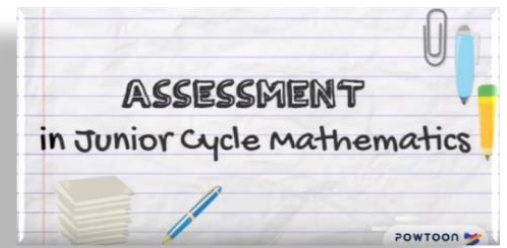
The JCT Mathematics Team were delighted to become involved in the JCT Science STE(A)M initiative last year and we will continue our involvement with upcoming STE(A)M events throughout this academic year. At these elective CPD events teachers further develop their competencies in problem-solving and critical thinking through engagement with experiential learning experiences that are scalable for their classrooms.



Please check that your principal has registered you for CPD this year

Supporting Student Learning

The Framework for Junior Cycle (2015) notes that Formative Assessment, complemented with Summative Assessment will be a key feature of Junior Cycle. Information on the structure of assessment in Junior Cycle Mathematics can be found [here](#).



Professional Time

[Circular letter](#) 29/2017 details the professional time (up to 22 hours) available to teachers of Junior Cycle for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019. This is time allocated to teachers specifically to support the implementation of the new Junior Cycle in a range of areas. We have compiled a list of [suggestions](#) as to how the time could be used.

Tacaíocht le h-aghaidh múineadh trí mhéan na Gaeilge

Tá leagan Gaeilge ár suíomh beo anois.

Tá achmainní i nGaeilge ar fail [anseo](#).



Maths Counts

Maths Counts 2018 took place on the 11th and 12th of May in UCD. Almost five hundred people attended to celebrate the work of Irish Maths Teachers who participated in the PDST's Lesson Study programme throughout 2017-18. A library of lesson study proposals can be found [here](#). The event also included a live lesson by international expert Professor Wantanabe on Problem Solving and a closing address by JCT Mathematics Team Leader Shane Flanagan.

The Year Ahead

We will continue to offer the 2017/2018 CPD programme for teachers throughout September and October. CPD for 2018/19 will be rolled out nationally from 5 November and we look forward to engaging with Mathematics teachers at these events. Please reregister for our mailing list and keep an eye on our [webpage](#) to get details of any upcoming events. Key documents, details of various resources from CPD events to date, advice on planning, connecting Junior Cycle Mathematics with L2LPs, assessment and many other resources are online. These resources are intended to assist teachers of mathematics with the implementation of the new specification.

MathsFest 2018

MathsFest 2018 will take place in the Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick on October 20th. It will be hosted by the Clare/Limerick branch of the IMTA (Irish Maths Teachers Association). JCT Team Leader for Mathematics, Shane Flanagan, will make an address on developments in Junior Cycle Mathematics.

Follow us on Twitter @JCforTeachers and directly on the Maths Team handle @JctMaths. 

We wish you the best for year ahead and look forward to supporting you with the implementation of the new specification.

Kind regards,

The JCT Mathematics Team