

Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2018

Dear Parents,

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on Mathematics in Stage 5 and inform you of the assessment tasks in Semester 2.

During Semester 2, students will be learning about Trigonometry, Data Analysis and Graphing Linear and Non-Linear Relationships. Students will learn important skills such as graphing, modelling physical phenomena and collecting, representing and analysing data sets. All of these units of work are practical and have applications for other subjects such as Science, Technology, iSTEM, Geography and PDHPE.

In Week 1, Term 3, Assessment Task 3 was handed out and will be due on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2018 (Week 4, Term 3). It is an investigation-style assignment where students need to consider the costs involved in purchasing a car as well as saving and borrowing money. Students have completed all of the mathematical content in the unit of work, *Saving and Borrowing* (Chapter 1 of the text book, *New Century Mathematics Stage 5: Year 10*). This task is due **before** students depart for the Urban Experience (Year 9) and Work Experience (Year 10).

Students are given homework exercises at the start of the week and I check this homework in the following week. This allows students the time to complete their homework, especially when they have other responsibilities and commitments at various points in the week. The school also has a subscription to an online learning tool, Maths Online. Students would benefit from using Maths Online, [www.mathsonline.com.au](http://www.mathsonline.com.au), to revise topics and practise skills learnt in Mathematics.

Parents are encouraged to support their child by checking that their student has completed set work and asking to see the results of assessment tasks. In the feedback I make suggestions on how a student may improve or areas to work on for the future.

In Weeks 4 and 5 of Term 4, Years 9 and 10 students will complete their Yearly Examinations in a range of subjects including Mathematics. In order to prepare students for this Examination, I provide students with a Skills Checklist for every unit of work we study. Students should use this as a guide to gauge their understanding of each topic and areas that they need to work on. In Term 4, I will make some practice examination papers available (these may be found in the Stage 5 Mathematics Folder on the File Server). Students should devote time completing these papers under examination conditions. Students will be exposed to the types of questions, especially problem solving style-questions likely to be in

the Yearly Examination. They will also gain experience completing questions under timed conditions, where they need to show all working steps. Students will receive valuable feedback on their ability to communicate their understanding and their problem solving skills.

In preparation for the Half-Yearly Examinations I made recommendations to follow a study plan:

<b>Term 4</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	Review skills checklists for each topic Complete end of chapter review  Complete Maths Online	Identify current understanding  Identify areas and exercises for review
<b>Week 2</b>	Complete targeted study i.e. areas and exercises for review  Complete Topic Tests (either from the text book or Maths Online)	Review and revise understanding and practise skills
<b>Week 3</b>	Complete practice examination papers (under examination conditions)	Complete questions under timed conditions  Learn to show required working steps  Practise Working Mathematically style-questions (Fluency, Understanding, Communicating, Reasoning and Problem Solving)

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child in Mathematics, please don't hesitate to contact me through the Front Office.

Kind regards,

Belinda Elliott