

## **Mathematics**

Mathematics is an essential element in the curriculum of any learner who intends to pursue a career in the physical, mathematical, computer, life, earth, space and environmental sciences or in technology. Mathematics also plays an important role in the economic, management and social sciences.

The learning achieved in Mathematics up to Grade 9 provides an essential base from which to proceed into the demands of Mathematics in Grades 10-12 :

- Numeracy is taken further, working in more symbolic ways
- Engagement with shape and space becomes more formalised
- The methods and uses of statistics and chance are dealt with in greater depth
- How Mathematics can contribute to an understanding of financial issues is taken beyond dealing with budgets
- Mathematical modeling becomes more prominent

To achieve success in Maths, a learner needs to :

- Achieve good marks in grade 9, as these outcomes form the base of topics covered in grade 10, 11 and 12.
- Love the subject
- Enjoy a challenge
- Be extremely hard-working
- Have perseverance

## **Maths Olympiad Club**

This extra-mural activity is open to all learners from grade 8 to 12. Meetings take place on Thursdays from 14:30 – 15:30 at school, where learners practice to solve Olympiad-type questions, such as Maths puzzles and riddles. The club also participates in the “Tour de Maths”, a monthly inter-school Maths Olympiad. The club is run by Mrs. van der Merwe.

## **Tour de Maths Inter-school Maths Competition**

In 2009 the St Dominic’s girls became part of the Tour-de-Maths community. Several schools from the East Rand, Johannesburg and Pretoria meet two to three times each term. At each meeting, a pair of pupils from one school teams up with two pupils from another school in a random draw. The team of four then attempts an Olympiad type question paper. The answers are marked and prizes are handed out to top achievers. There are also several lucky draws for prizes such as Casio calculators and watches. Any learner from Grade 8 to Grade 11 may participate.