

The Highest Common Factor



July 2023

From the CEO's desk



Welcome to another edition of Highest Common Factor. As we approach the midway point in the year, it is useful to reflect on what has been an incredibly busy year so far.

We have continued to work with the Federal Government through Education Services Australia to deliver content for the Mathematics Hub. If you haven't already, make sure you look at those resources.

The local competitions of the National Mathematics Talent Quest are well underway. We are excited to see what entries progress to the National level. Make sure you check in with your local state or territory association for more information on how to enter.

We have a number of new initiatives that will start in the second half of 2023. Make sure you read about our Focus on Maths funding further on in this newsletter and subscribe to receive more information as it becomes available.

I'm really excited to announce the launch of the AAMT Podcast, 'Strength in Numbers'. We have been working on this project since the end of last year. The Strength in Numbers podcast will release a new episode every week of term time starting in Term 3. There is more information later in the newsletter.

Many of you will recall that in 2019, in partnership with PivotPL, we commissioned a piece of research titled "Learning from the best: what makes an excellent teacher of mathematics". Late last year, in partnership with PivotPL and AMSI, we commissioned a further study aimed to continue the exploration of excellent teaching in mathematics from students', teachers' and leaders' perspectives. The final report should be finalised and published soon.

Enjoy this newsletter.

Allan Dougan
CEO



The ATSIMA Conference and a call for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teachers

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance (ATSIMA) 2023 conference will be the first mathematics education conference held in a Yolŋu Community. It will provide delegates with the opportunity to be immersed in a Yolŋu Community, in Yolŋu Language and Culture and explore the teaching and learning of mathematics that values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Registration and accommodation bookings are NOW OPEN.

ATSIMA's current associate or ordinary members are eligible for a discount on their registration fee, and should contact Melinda Pearson at melindapearson@atsima.org for the member's code.

ATSIMA is also seeking expressions of interest from qualified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teachers working in mathematics education in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors to undertake part-time and contract work.

If this fits your work and you are interested, you are invited to complete the google form by COB Friday 21 July 2023 and to share this link with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teachers.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact ATSIMA's Business Manager, Melinda Pearson on 0414 322 372 or email melindapearson@atsima.org



Maths300 PL Workshops for WA Teachers 24-25 July 2023

At AAMT we love learning and we are excited to announce that we have revised and relaunched our teacher professional learning (PL) on Maths300, our highly regarded suite of tools and resources to help teachers create engaging and investigative mathematics lessons.

We are running two professional learning sessions early next term, delving into a range of Maths300 activities and exploring how to get the most out of this enriching pedagogical tool.

At just \$49 and one hour long, each PL session is perfect for teachers who are short on time, but want to gain new insights and techniques to engage students in meaningful, accessible and challenging mathematics.

Conducted via the Google Meets platform, you can join the PL course anywhere with a stable internet connection and attempt the activities yourself, interacting with the instructor and asking questions in real-time.

We are offering separate courses targeted towards primary and secondary teachers, so that you can choose the course that focuses on content and activities that are most relevant to your teaching context and of course your students.

To register for the Primary PL workshop (24th July 2023, 4:00pm-5:00pm AWST), click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to register for the Secondary PL workshop, (25th July 2023, 4:00pm-5:00pm AWST).

If you don't yet have a Maths300 subscription, you can still take part in the PL. Write to us at maths300@aamt.edu.au and we'll organise temporary access for you.

If you are interested in arranging a Maths300 PL for your school or faculty, please write to us at maths300@aamt.edu.au.

Copyright for teachers

The Australian Copyright Council has now published its new free Fact Sheet for teachers on what they can do with text and images in support of their classroom work and preparation.

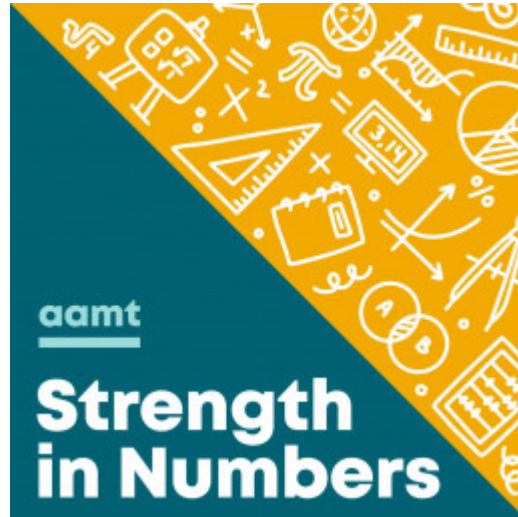
It answers questions like 'Where can I copy from?', 'What can I copy and share?' and 'How can I share material with students?'.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE FACT SHEET](#)

Strength in Numbers AAMT's Podcast

AAMT are proud to announce the launch of its weekly podcast, "**Strength in Numbers**".

Be sure to subscribe on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.



Have you considered writing a paper for AAMT's journals?

You may have already subscribed to either the **Australian Primary Mathematics Classroom (APMC)** or the **Australian Mathematics Education Journal (AMEJ)**, but would you also like to see your work published? AAMT journals are unique in Australia in that they are peer reviewed and have an International reputation. People who write for them include many of Australia's most celebrated mathematics academics and authors, international academics and classroom teachers, as well as Australian classroom teachers.

AAMT encourages and supports new writers to have their work published. Whether you're a classroom teacher, a tertiary mathematics educator, a masters or PhD student, an experienced author or first-time writer, we want to hear from you. If you have an idea for a paper but have some questions about its suitability send an email to our editors at editor@aamt.edu.au. They are happy to answer questions and discuss ideas.

The **Australian Primary Mathematics Classroom (APMC)** publishes papers about the teaching and learning of mathematics applicable to early years (pre-F) and primary school students (Years F–6/7). Papers tend to have a practical focus with reports and ideas for teaching activities, as well as reporting research which has a direct impact on classroom teaching.

The **Australian Mathematics Education Journal (AMEJ)** includes two sections. Section 1 is suitable for an audience of upper-primary and middle-school teachers and Section 2 is directed toward mathematics educators of senior high school and tertiary levels.

Click [here](#) to view sample articles, and read about how to submit a paper and the peer review process.

Send articles directly to Jacquie at jsprott@aamt.edu.au or get in touch with our editors at editor@aamt.edu.au.

Focus on Maths to re-launch in Term 3!

We are very excited to be busy preparing the re-launch of our Focus on Maths program. Focus on Maths helps build capacity in maths teaching by funding professional learning for teachers of mathematics.

Grants of between \$2,000 and \$30,000 will be available for bespoke PL initiatives tailored to schools' specific maths professional learning requirements at both the primary and secondary level.

The program targets the areas of greatest need, so we particularly want to hear from:

schools in **low socio-economic areas**,
schools in **rural and remote Australia**,
schools with high numbers of **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**,
out-of-field teachers and
teachers who lack confidence in teaching mathematics.

You can use the link below to pre-register to hear more about the application process when we re-launch next term.

Click here to know more

NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week (2-9 July) has just finished and with many schools heading back, now is a great opportunity to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We know, from the awesome response we saw to our posts during Reconciliation Week, that our teachers want to learn more and incorporate content that celebrates and engages our First Nations Australians in their mathematics teaching and learning.

So ... we posted every day during NAIDOC Week, with a focus on how to implement the cross-curriculum priority Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures within the Mathematics Curriculum, from early primary to upper secondary. So follow us on [facebook](#) and [check](#) our page if you'd like to learn more.

Participate in an important research project

Our colleagues at the Universities of Tasmania, NSW and Queensland are conducting research into how secondary mathematics teachers view the inclusion of students with intellectual disabilities in their classrooms.

If you are a secondary teacher and would like to participate they would love to hear from you.

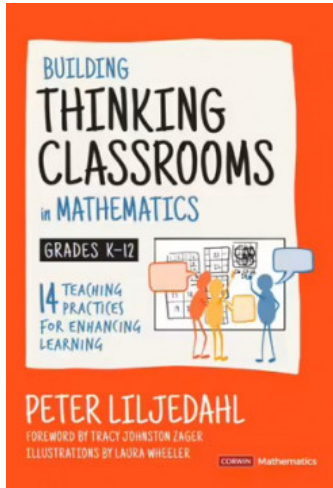
Click [here](#) to access the survey.

As an incentive, if you complete the survey, you're eligible to enter a draw for a \$100 voucher to purchase items of your choice from the AAMT catalogue.

Click [here](#) to browse the collection.

From the Bookstore

***Peter Liljedahl's Bestseller - Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics
Grades K-12***



A thinking student is an engaged student.

Teachers often find it difficult to implement lessons that help students go beyond rote memorisation and repetitive calculations. Sparked by observing teachers struggle to implement rich mathematics tasks to engage students in deep thinking, Peter Liljedahl has translated his 15 years of research into this practical guide on how to move toward a thinking classroom.

Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics, Grades K-12 helps teachers implement 14 optimal practices for thinking that create an ideal setting for deep mathematics learning to occur.

This guide provides the what, why, and how of each practice and answers teachers' most frequently asked questions. It organizes the 14 practices into four toolkits that can be implemented in order and built on throughout the year. When combined, these unique research-based practices create the optimal conditions for learner-centered, student-owned deep mathematical thinking and learning, and have the power to transform mathematics classrooms like never before.

We're proud to offer limited copies of this book at what's probably the lowest price online - **\$18.40** only!

Grab your copy before they are gone!

[Click here to order your copy today](#)

Thank you for subscribing to the AAMT newsletter.

Here are a few other ways to stay updated on the latest in maths education in Australia:

Follow us on Twitter [@aamtinc](#) for weekly maths puzzles, fun facts and news or on [Facebook](#) for our weekly Easy as 123... feature.

Connect with our [CEO Allan Dougan](#) or [Education Specialist Denise Halliday](#) on LinkedIn

Listen to our weekly podcast Strength in Numbers, starting Week 1 in Term 3

Our quarterly newsletter is delivered right into your mailbox. Past newsletters can be found on our website under the [About Us/Newsletters](#) section.

And if you like what you read, please tell your colleagues about us!

Kind regards,
AAMT Team

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