03/04/2025

Dear Parent/Carer

JUNIOR MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

We would like to inform you that we are entering 390 boys from Years 7 and 8 for the Junior Mathematical Challenge on **Thursday 1st May 2025** and your son has been chosen to enter the competition.

The Junior Mathematical Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice competition aimed at students across Years 7-8 and promotes a love of problem-solving. The competition encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. The problems on the Junior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think. Details regarding the specific test timing and equipment required will be shared nearer the time.

How can your son prepare for the Challenge?

UKMT has partnered with Parallel, a charitable project that aims to increase the number and diversity of excellent mathematicians. The team at Parallel is offering a series of [free online webinars](#) to help students get ready for the Junior Maths Challenge. It was set up by Dr Simon Singh MBE and Countdown series winner and former Oxford admissions tutor Dr Junaid Mubeen, who will deliver some of the webinars themselves. The webinars will introduce students to the format of the challenge paper and explore strategies for solving a variety of problems. These webinars will be particularly useful for students who are sitting the JMC paper for the first time, but they will also provide important insights and techniques for more experienced students. Please note, students will not appear on camera and will not be able to talk, but the webinars are highly interactive as students will be able to answer polls and use a chat function to send answers to Simon. The webinars will take place during the Easter break, during the week of **April 7th, Monday to Friday at 7pm**.

Please feel free to direct any questions to the Parallel coordinator for the JMC webinars, naom@parallel.org.uk

Students can also use [past Junior Mathematical Challenge papers](#) as a source of high-quality problems to encourage them to think mathematically and to prepare for the competition. These papers are available on the UKMT website at https://ukmt.org.uk/competition-papers

We hope your son is keen to take part in the Junior Mathematical Challenge and demonstrate his mathematical ability and problem-solving skills.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs B. Hogarth
Exams Officer & UKMT Co-ordinator (Mathematics Department)