21st September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

HegartyMaths Home Learning Programme

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about an exciting home learning maths programme we are launching with to all pupils this year – HegartyMaths.

HegartyMaths is an online website created by UK Teacher of the Year and Global Teacher Prize Top 10 Finalist, Colin Hegarty. Colin received these awards for his contribution to maths education and was last month named as one of the top 10 maths influencers in a recent Evening Standard Top 1000 Londoners list.

The aim of this programme is to provide a top quality home learning platform to students in all years so that, along with fantastic teacher-led maths lessons in school, your child will be supported at home with their maths learning. Often maths homework can be difficult to get right. At home students may struggle to remember concepts they learnt in class and parents often find it difficult to help their child through the methods as they were different methods to when they were at school.

This HegartyMaths system makes it easier for a child to engage with their maths homework. It teaches (via 800 10 minute videos made by Colin), assesses (in small quizzes of usually 10 questions) and tracks everything a child needs to learn in school maths. The programme aims to have a positive impact in the following areas:

1) Student intrinsic motivation for learning maths and their attitudes towards maths;
2) Student attainment in maths
3) Parental engagement and ability to assist in your child's maths learning.

Your child will receive two pieces of homework a week from the HegartyMaths platform. Your child may complete more work should they wish, but this is not a requirement. The HegartyMaths homework will consist of two main parts:

1) Watching and taking detailed notes in their orange book from a 10 minute video
2) Doing the quiz that follows the video showing full working in their orange book.

The system has been working with students across the country as the video is very closely related to the quiz and models having a good tutor explain a concept and then letting a child practice that exact concept afterwards.

Every week the teacher will set a task that is suitable for your child based on what they have been doing in school. Our main focus is on the effort that your child puts into their homework, the care they take with their notes and the pride they take in their work. All notes and all answers to the quizzes must be written in their orange books and students should mark their work in their books as they go along on the computer. It is fine to make mistakes and students should be encouraged to write the mistakes in their book, write the correct answer which the computer will show them and retry any question they struggle with as this will make encourage good habits and take the fear out of making mistakes in maths.

We have also included for your reference a Student Starter Guide. This explains the site is more detail and shows an example of a student's work.

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Your child will be told by their teacher how to log-in to the site but in short

1) Go to www.hegartymaths.com
2) Existing users, Student login (at the top)
3) Type in the school name
4) Write in their first name, last name and date of birth
5) Choose a password of their choice. Students should write this password in their orange book.

If for any reason your child will have difficulties accessing the online homework we can make provisions at school, so please let us know so we can help.

Thank you very much for reading this letter.

We look forward to working with you this year.

Yours sincerely,

Associate Assistant Headteacher
CAL – Mathematics