

## What is the PMC?

The PMC is aimed at the top 60% of pupils in English and Welsh schools Years 5 and 6, Scottish schools P6 and P7, and years 6 and 7 in Northern Ireland. It is a test with multiple-choice problems which aim to interest pupils and be mathematical.

## What does the challenge paper look like?

The paper will look friendly and interesting. The first 10 problems are easy, and most pupils in the target group should get them correct! The next ten are a little harder. Correct answers to these problems score one mark each. Questions 21 - 25 will be harder; each correct answer scores two marks.

## How does the challenge work?

Schools order packs of PMC papers in packs of ten with seven certificates in each pack. Instructions, answer sheet with follow-up ideas, tally sheet and a reply envelope are provided. Packs will be sent to schools during October. Schools set the PMC to pupils at any convenient time during November 2002. Papers are marked by the school. The certificates provided in the packs (1 gold, 2 silver, 3 bronze, one 'took the challenge' in each pack) will be awarded by the school. The tally sheet will be returned to the PMC Office by the first week in December.

## What happens then?

The few highest scoring pupils will be invited to take the PMC Final in the first full week in February 2003. This is a harder multiple-choice question paper. Again the first 20 problems will be easier than the next five. This test will be marked by the PMC Office. Full results will be sent to the participating schools in early March.

## Who manages the PMC?

The PMC is run by The Mathematical Association. There are two main committees working on the challenge. The Management Team is Trish Morgan (Schools Advisor - Primary), Robyn Pickles (Redwell Junior School) and Peter Bailey (Chair PMC teams). The Problems Team includes Colin Abell (St Edward's CE Middle School), Robyn Pickles (Redwell Junior School) and Ruth Cullingworth (Dinglewell Junior School).

## To register your school

Please complete the Registration Form and post it to the PMC Office, The Mathematical Association, 259 London Road, Leicester LE2 3BE

# Results of the PMC 2001 / 2002

Over 44,000 pupils in 1175 schools in the UK took the November 2001 PMC paper. 31,000 certificates were issued for presentation in these schools (England 936 schools, Scotland 62, Wales 98, Northern Ireland 77, abroad 2).

The PMC Office also received some great photographs of PMC pupils!

## Here are some of the comments the PMC Office received from teachers:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A super challenge   | All children in year 6 took part and were able to get something from it |
| Good preparation for the maths challenges in secondary school | Some staff enjoyed trying it too!                                       |
| Very easy to administer                                       | Year 5 are looking forward to doing it next year                        |
| Good range of questions                                       | The challenge stimulated children to think creatively                   |
| It gets pupils thinking                                       | Even the most able children were made to think                          |
| The new mark sheet was very helpful                           | The PMC has helped to boost confidence.                                 |
| Even the lowest ability were able to take part                | They loved getting their certificates in assembly                       |
| Interesting discussion after the challenge                    | I really liked the follow-up extension ideas.                           |
| The children loved taking part and wanted to do another one   |   |



Over 1100 highest-scoring pupils were invited to take the February 2002 PMC Finals. There were 112 award-winners who received PMC medals.

## ★ Gold Award-winners

Sean O'Beirn	Blessed William Davies School	Llandudno
Theodor Bray	Brambleside Community School	Kettering
Preayan Parmar	Clifton College Prep School	Bristol
Piers Turner	Dame Johane Bradbury's	Saffron Walden
Andrew Hyer	Newton Preparatory School	London
Emma Trefethen	Oxford High School Junior Department	Oxford
David Mcleod	St Columba's Prep School	Herts
Paul Stanyon	William Shrewsbury Primary School	Burton-On-Trent





Primary Mathematics Challenge

# Primary Mathematics Challenge

## Will your pupils take the PMC challenge in November 2002?

Over 44000 pupils took the **Primary Mathematics Challenge** last year - and many more will 'take the challenge' in November 2002. Will your pupils take part in this national event, with certificates for all?



All these pupils from Hardwicke Parochial Primary School, Gloucester, took the PMC in November 2001.



The Mathematical Association  
259 London Road Leicester LE2 3BE  
Tel: 0116 221 0013 Fax: 0116 212 2835  
Email: office@m-a.org.uk Website: www.m-a.org.uk

### New for 2002

#### Primary Mathematics Challenge 1999/2002

This book contains the six previous PMC papers for you to copy, plus mark schemes, full 'Answers and Notes' (with follow-up suggestions), lists of all award winners and an A3 PMC poster for your classroom.

Available from the MA at £6 for members (£9 for non members) plus £1.50 handling charge. Cheques payable to The Mathematical Association.

## Try these problems from the 2001 / 2002 PMC papers

### November PMC

$$10 - 9 + 8 - 7 + 6 - 5 + 4 - 3 + 2 - 1 =$$

**A** 0    **B** 1    **C** 5    **D** 10    **E** 55



My dog Spot has 6 spots on each leg, 3 on each ear, 7 on each tail and 20 on her back. How many spots does she have altogether?

**A** 36    **B** 42    **C** 57    **D** 63    **E** 64



Ann Adder asked Monty the Python how long he was. Knowing that Ann liked puzzles Monty answered 'I am 12 feet plus a third of my length'. How many feet long is Monty?

**A** 4    **B** 15    **C** 16    **D** 18    **E** 36

In a shop, boxes of Easter eggs are stacked like square-based pyramids. How many boxes are there in this stack?

**A** 4    **B** 10    **C** 17    **D** 20    **E** 30



### February PMC Finals



To encourage his son, a father pays 8p for a correct answer and takes away 5p for an incorrect answer. After 26 questions, neither owes the other. How many correct answers did the son get?

**A** 2    **B** 8    **C** 10    **D** 12    **E** 16

If today is Monday, what day of the week will it be in 100 days?

**A** Monday  
**B** Tuesday  
**C** Wednesday  
**D** Thursday  
**E** Friday



## Primary Mathematics Challenge

School Registration: To register, send your completed form to the PMC Office.

Did your school enter last year?		Yes		Your PMC ID Number or School Postcode		
		No				
Quantity Ordered	English		£5.00 per pack of 10		Total Cost	£
	Welsh					

Each pack of 10 PMC papers contains: Answer sheet, Certificates (1 Gold, 2 Silver and 3 Bronze). Instructions and Tally sheet will also be included.

Please tick your preference:

Cheque enclosed with order (payable to The Mathematical Association)	
Please send invoice	

School Name								
School Address								
	Postcode:							
Telephone Number								
Email address								
Name Contact Teacher								
Location of School (please tick)	England		Scotland		Wales		N. Ireland	

### Type of School

Primary up to age 10/11		Primary up to age 11/12		Middle	
Independent		Foundation		Other	
Co-educational		Boys only		Girls only	

How did you hear about the Primary Maths Challenge?

Please return your completed form with payment (cheque made payable to The Mathematical Association) to: PMC Office,

The Mathematical Association 259 London Road, Leicester, LE2 3BE.

Tel: 0116 221 0013 Fax: 0116 212 2835 Email: [pmc@m-a.org.uk](mailto:pmc@m-a.org.uk) Website: [m-a.org.uk](http://m-a.org.uk)