

Mathematica Centrum

Enriching young minds since 1990

To the Principal of the School

September 25, 2023

Dear Sir / Madam,

The Mathematics Contest Centre (MCC) prepares some of the top mathematics contests in North America. Over the past 35 years, more than 1.5 million students have participated in these contests. You may enter your students in seven different contests: **Thales** (grade 3), **Byron–Germain** (grade 4), **Fibonacci** (grade 5), **Pythagoras** (grade 6), **Euler** (grade 7), **Lagrange** (grade 8) and **Newton** (grade 9). It is our hope that your students will participate this year.

UNESCO has stated that learning mathematics through problem solving activities is the most efficient way to prepare students for the challenges of the future. With this in mind, we design contests that challenge and promote the problem solving skills of all your students. To learn more about our educational mission and commitment to learning, please go to www.mathematicacentrum.ca and read our homepage letter. Schools who wish to receive previous contest questionnaires with detailed solutions, to help them better prepare their students, can order them by completing the appropriate section of the registration form.

Like last year, you may choose to write the contests either by pencil and paper, **or** online (keep in mind that all contests must be written in the same format). Choose the method which is the most appropriate for your school (please read the **N.B. 3** on reverse side). Everything else about the contests will be the same (please read **N.B. 1**, **N.B. 2**, and **P.S.** on reverse side). The Thales Contest (grade 3; 45 minutes; 30 questions), the Byron-Germain Contest (grade 4; 45 minutes; 30 questions), the Fibonacci Contest (grade 5; 60 minutes; 40 questions), the Pythagoras Contest (grade 6; 75 minutes; 50 questions), the Euler Contest (grade 7; 75 minutes; 40 questions), the Lagrange Contest (grade 8; 75 minutes; 40 questions), and the Newton Contest (grade 9; 75 minutes; 40 questions) will all be written on **April 10, 2024**. Please contact the Centre if your school is unable to write any or all of the contests on this day. For each contest, the students scoring over the national average will receive certificates of distinction, while all other students will receive certificates of participation. A medal (or medals) will be awarded to the champion(s) of each school. **National** plaques will be awarded to schools ranked in the first, second, and third places in **Canada**. **Provincial** plaques will be awarded to school provincial champions. Students who rank in the first, second, and third places in **Canada** will receive medals resembling the **Fields Medal** (the medal awarded to the greatest mathematicians in the world) that will have the student's name inscribed on the back. Provincial champions will receive the same medal. As well, both national and provincial honour rolls for the best students and schools will be published online in June. To register, you must complete the accompanying registration form and return it to the MCC before the deadline of **November 22, 2023**.

We hope that these contests will encourage all of your students to further develop their problem resolution skills. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,



M.C. Lepore, eng
Founder and director, Mathematics Contest Centre

continued...

N.B. 1 In late February 2024 or the beginning of March, all schools will be able to download the 2024 Preparatory Tests from our website www.mathematicacentrum.ca. The preparatory tests from 2007 to 2019 with detailed solutions and answer keys are already available; you may download them to practice with your students. Early in February 2024, the schools that have chosen the online contests will be able to register (on our server) the names of the students that will be participating in the April 10, 2024 contests (all the information that you will need to access the platform will be sent to you by e-mail, but will also be available on our website www.mathematicacentrum.ca. Furthermore, at the beginning of March 2024, the 2023 (last year's) Contests will be available cost-free online on our server. By doing these Contests, your students will be able to thoroughly practice the mechanics of online testing so that they will know exactly what to do on April 10, 2024.

N.B. 2 Certificates and medals will be mailed to the schools by the end of May or beginning of June. Plaques will be mailed later in June.

N.B. 3 Return the registration form as soon as possible, because it is important for us to know the contest format that you have chosen. Place an **X** in one of the two squares of the registration form confirming the method your school has chosen to write the contests. You cannot write some contests online and write the others using the pencil and paper method (**all contests must be written in the same way**).

P.S. Please photocopy this letter and the registration form and keep them in a safe place so that you can refer to them easily, as they contain a great deal of the information that you will need to consult throughout the year. To obtain the details of each contest and important dates, **please visit our website at www.mathematicacentrum.ca** and click on "important dates".

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