

## MEM News for LivMS committee meeting 25-Mar-2021

### Orbiter January 2021

This was published and circulated in the second week of the new school term. All the usual content was included, with face to face meetings replaced by online Zoom versions and digital downloads.

### Masterclasses – Autumn term 2020 – The 30th Year of MEM Masterclasses

Because of the impact of COVID-19, MEM reluctantly cancelled the usual programme of Saturday Masterclasses which would have been hosted by the universities and schools in Liverpool and Wirral. Instead, some Masterclass material was adapted and was released to Y8 and Y9 pupils via the MEM website: **Fibonacci Everywhere**, **Necklaces (Modular Arithmetic)**, and **Squares – some of them Magic**. This adapted Masterclass material could be studied by pupils at home. The date for submitting answers to some of the exercises to MEM for marking (30th November 2020) has passed but the material continues to be available to download.

### Information for teachers - 19th October to 30th November 2020

Teachers may nominate as many pupils as they think will benefit from the activities, and the pupils should be in Year 8 or 9 during 2020/21. **There is no charge for these masterclass materials which should be printed at school and distributed to the pupils taking part.** The booklets contain many exercises, and while some of these exercises have answers provided within the booklets, other answers can be submitted to MEM for marking using a Google Form. Certificates will be made available for printing at school, to be awarded to the pupils taking part.

### Responses and feedback

We have no data on how many schools and pupils in total took advantage of this opportunity, but we did receive 19 responses for marking:

School	Town	responses	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Bury Grammar School	Bury	3	3		
Colfe's School	London	2	2		
Hollingworth Academy	Rochdale	1			1
Lostock High School	Stretford	3	3		
St. Edward's Senior School	Cheltenham	4	1	1	2
Wirral Grammar School for Girls	Bebington	6	6		

4 pupils submitted responses to all three masterclasses and 7 pupils submitted one response.

### Comments

*'This was very hard, hence why I missed out a whole page', 'I tried what I could, and actually enjoyed the most part of it', 'Good Form. I had a fun time doing this', 'I wasn't sure whether to round the questions 28-34 (eg. speed limits would be 80,70,30,20 etc)', 'I put in the answers using the golden ratio sums', 'The answers, if they are the actual speed limits too, are 80, 70, 30, 20, 185, 228, 483'*

### Challenge and Senior Challenge 2021

These competitions, with the theme **Nature**, were distributed to schools as usual, for completion during February half-term. The deadline for receipt of completed entries was extended this year to 19th March 2021. Early indications are that there has been a healthy response, but fewer than last year, although more are still arriving in the post at the time of writing.

Barry. 22 March 2021