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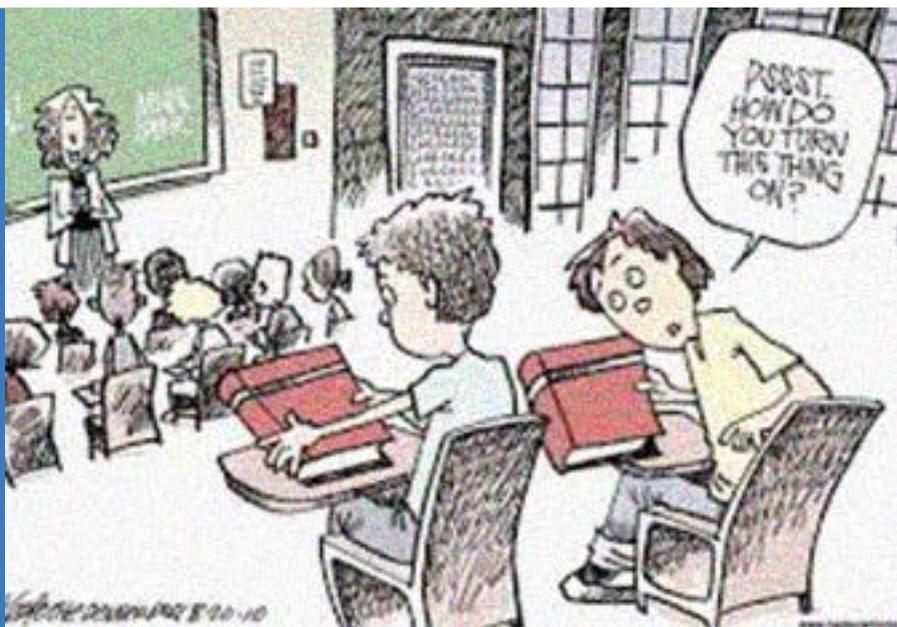
- Calculator ERROR fixed

### WIN WITH SEARTEC

- Sharp Flat Screen TV up for grabs

### RIDDLES

- Last months answer. As well as a new one.



## DEAR FELLOW SMART-SOLVERS,

I always seem to be asking the question of "where does the time go? And how did it get there so quickly?" And I'm asking it again - how are we already nearly through the third term? As I write this the three term teachers are crying because they have to return to school, and the four term teachers are celebrating (and stressing out a little) because it is nearly the end of the term again!

We hope that those of you who had a break enjoyed it and we wish everyone a happy spring!

# Back to School

## NATIONAL AMESA CONFERENCE 2016

Speaking of interesting holidays - Sharp got to spend the first week of the July holidays with 1200 maths teachers from around the country at the National AMESA conference in Nelspruit at the Tshwane University of Technology. Sharp gave away 600 EL-W535HT calculators to the first 600 registered teachers and we conducted 8 different workshops throughout the week. If you would like to download any of the workshops [click here](#).

We also had a mental maths competition where teachers were challenged to get to 100% in the fastest possible time. The winner, Thabo Mokgolo, walked away with a Sharp microwave for completing the 25 mixed questions in 29 seconds!

Second place went to Zodwa Sibanyoni who spent four hours at the exhibition table attempting to beat Thabo's record-breaking time. She eventually reached 32 seconds before giving up. Alton Ontong was in third place with 33 seconds. If you would like to see the rest of the rankings [click here](#). We will run the same competition next year at the National AMESA taking place in Port Elizabeth so start practicing 😊

I discovered (and recently shared on [Facebook](#)) this awesome story about the [Differentiation monster](#). It is a great story that introduces differentiation in a humorous light and some concepts beyond the basics we deal with in grade 12. The author's narrative explains the rules of basic differentiation as well, which also makes the rules very easy to remember 😊

The one thing that I have found with students is that they love stories - one student told me that she remembered my foil story (there were two people married in two separate brackets who then cheated on each other and made all sorts of weird babies 😊) in her test and that was how she answered all of her FOIL questions. The funny thing is she remembered that story a lot better than she ever remembered the FOIL acronym.



If your students are struggling with the motivation to study maths show them [this video](#). It shows a mathematician who won 700 000 dollars (or over 9 million Rand!) for solving a maths problem! Yes, that's right! And there is lots of other prize money available for all the other problems that haven't been solved yet. Check out [Mathworld](#) for some very lucrative math problems 😊

## LEGO ROBOTICS

**SAVE THE DATE:** For those interested in (Lego) Robotics there are several competitions taking place around the country - the **World Robotics National** competition will be held on the 10th of September at the Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria at 9.00 a.m. Entrance is open to anyone who wants to attend so go and see what this is all about. If you would like to start a Lego Robotics club at your school, you can chat to **Danie from Hands on Tech.**



## RIO REGRESSION

With the **Rio Olympics** completed **this article** gives an interesting look into predicting the number of medals each country would win. The team of researchers who put this together used **regression analysis** - a statistical technique that uses historical information to predict future information.

This is a great introduction to using statistics in the real world and can also get students to think about what would go into predicting the outcomes of the Olympics. Perhaps students could also create their own prediction models and the winner is the student who most accurately predicts the number of



## SCHOOL MATHS DAY

**W**e had another successful Primary School Maths Day at **Glenwood Preparatory** school in Durban on the 28th of July. Teachers were treated to a fun afternoon of snacks, Olympiad discussions, a glimpse into the amazing interactive touch screen available from Sharp and a calculator workshop. The feedback was very positive and our next maths day will

be in **Pietermaritzburg** on the **8th of September** and will include a workshop by Elaine Smallbones. High school teachers we are thinking of you and we are in discussions to host a maths day in Johannesburg early next year - keep an eye out for our invitations 😊 Below are some pictures from the day. If you are keen to join, you can [sign-up here](#).



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## SHARP TIPS



**Calculator tip:** Making mistakes in maths is an important tool for learning. But what happens when you make a mistake on your calculator and the dreaded "ERROR" message comes up?

**On** Sharp scientific calculators it is easy to fix this error. When your calculator gives you the message after pressing the equal button simply press your left arrow key  and the calculator will move the cursor directly behind the error and you can then delete  the mistake or add in something that is missing. Another great quick editing trick is when you want to go right to the beginning of your expression you can press   and this will take you straight to the beginning of the expression. If you press   this will take you right to the very beginning of the expressions you typed into the calculator. You can use your up and down arrow keys to scroll through all of the different expressions you have entered into the calculator.



STAR PRIZE!

WIN a SHARP 40" Flat Screen TV!! with 

**W**e are now listed on **SchoolAdvisor**, an online platform for finding school suppliers. By reviewing any school supplier on SchoolAdvisor, you can stand a chance to WIN a SHARP 40" Flat Screen TV! (T&Cs apply). **SchoolAdvisor** allows schools to search for, get quotes and rate suppliers directly. We believe this platform will help you to find the best supplier/product to meet your particular need and ensure that you receive the

best service - as suppliers are kept accountable by constant reviews and feedback from school decision makers.

We'd love you to rate our company and services, as feedback from our clients is important to us. Every review you submit counts as a new entry - so please [rate](#) us and any other supplier(s) you have worked with to increase your chance of winning.

### LAST MONTH'S RIDDLE WAS:

At night they come without being fetched. By day they are lost without being stolen. What are they?

And the answer is stars! 😊



### HERE IS A NEW RIDDLE FOR YOU:

I saw a shirt for R97 rand. I borrowed R50 from my mom and R50 from my dad. I bought the shirt and got R3 change. I gave R1 to my mom, R1 to my dad and kept R1 for myself. Now I owe my mom R49 and my dad R49. But  $R49 + R49 = R98 + \text{my } R1 = R99$ .

Where did the other R1 go? 😊

As we push through the third term and struggle to keep our students motivated for the last couple of weeks (or the beginning of the end) here is a great link for [15 awesome maths quotes](#) to stick up around your classroom.

Don't let your copier be one of the things that gives you trouble, please contact Seartec (you can email me and I will get the branch to contact you) if you are looking for new multifunction printers and copiers for your school and we will be happy to assess your needs and find the right solution for your school as well as include some free scientific calculators as well.

Have an amazing, maths-inspired rest of week, Happy Maths-ing,

### Tal and the Sharp Team

Oh almost forgot -

