



Penshurst Primary School

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Dear parent / carer

We are delighted to inform you that your child has been selected to take part in a series of free online maths webinars designed to support high-achieving students in preparing for the Intermediate Maths Challenge in January 2026.

This national competition goes beyond the standard curriculum and focuses on developing strong problem-solving and reasoning skills.

The webinar series is run by Parallel (https://parallel.org.uk), a charitable project founded by best-selling science writer Simon Singh, which aims to increase the number and diversity of excellent mathematicians.

About the Programme:

- The webinars will run weekly, starting w/c 3 November, and continue through to the end of the summer term, with breaks during school holidays.
- The sessions are aimed at preparing students for the Intermediate Maths Challenge but will also help to build broader mathematical thinking.
- Students can join as many sessions as they like, with each webinar offered twice a
 week once on a weekday evening and once at the weekend to suit different
 schedules.

To take part, you simply need to create a free Parallel account using the link below. When each webinar is due to start, your child can go to the 'IMC Webinars' page on the site:

https://parallel.org.uk/start/137306/6phsu6

If your child is already part of the Parallel Academy, please still register using this link, as it allows us to monitor participation and progress.

The deadline for students to register is **15 November**, although the first webinar takes place on 4 November, so students should aim to register before then to avoid missing out.

Webinars will introduce students to the style of the challenge paper and explore effective problem-solving strategies. These sessions are suitable for both students attempting the challenge for the first time and those with previous experience. Students will not appear on camera or be able to speak, ensuring a safe and secure online environment. Despite this, the sessions are highly interactive – students can respond via polls and use a chat function to submit answers and questions.

If you have any questions, please contact Parallel directly at webinars@parallel.org.uk.

If you have any queries or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child reach their full potential—we look forward to seeing them thrive through this exciting opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Miss S Bedford

Assistant Head of Maths