



Excellence | Equity | New Evangelization

## Talk Math with your Kids

There are opportunities to discuss math with your children every day. Show your child how mathematics impacts your everyday life through things such as:

- Finances;
- Home renovations;
- Telling the time;
- Travel;
- Look at home décor such as floor tiles in your home or community and ask your child about the patterns they see.
- Use a number puzzle such as: Sudoku, Kenken and Yohaku for entertainment or to start a conversation with your child about their thinking while they are solving the puzzle.
- Check out these websites to find prompts to engage your children in conversations that apply mathematical thinking:
  - Which One Doesn't Belong ([www.wodb.ca](http://www.wodb.ca));
  - Would You Rather Math ([www.wouldyourathermath.com](http://www.wouldyourathermath.com)).



*Learning and Living in Faith*

### OUR MISSION:

We are called to celebrate and nurture the God-given talents of each student as we serve with excellence in the light of Christ.

For further information,  
contact your child's school.

Durham Catholic District School Board



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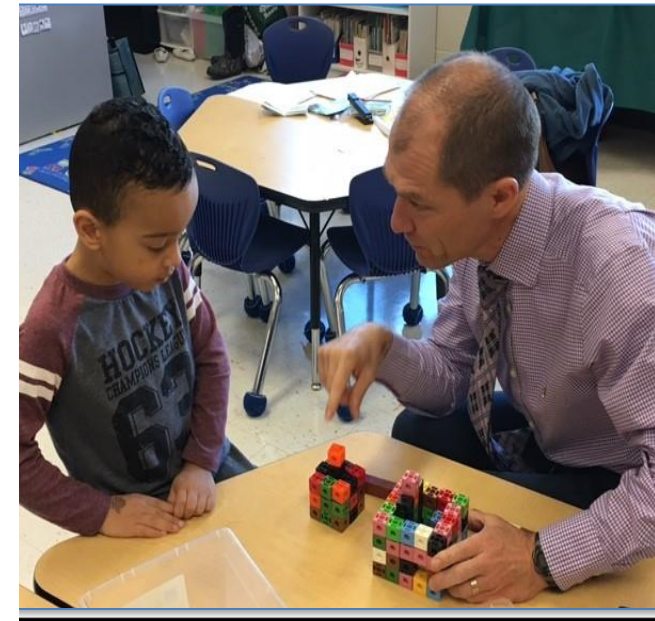


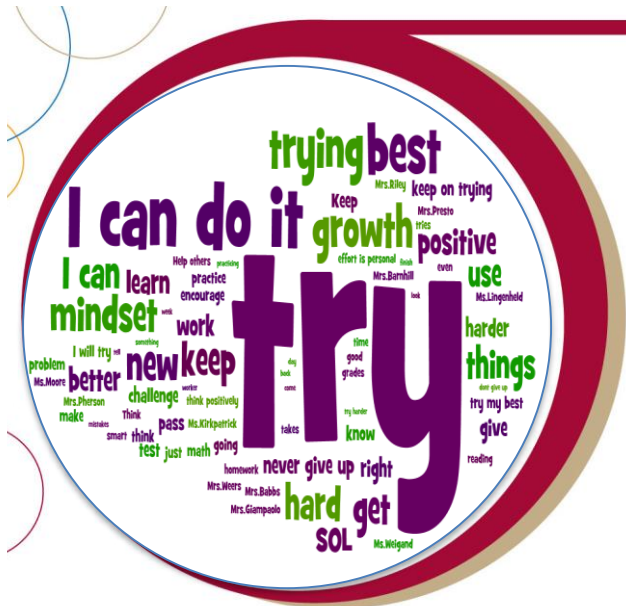
# Durham Catholic District School Board

## Engaging Parents and Guardians in Math



@DCDSBMath





### Our Commitment to Math

From the classroom to the playground, at Durham Catholic District School Board we are always looking for ways to support our students in their development as mathematicians. As educators, we have uncovered a great deal about our students and how they learn best. Through a balance of rich learning experiences and carefully planned practice opportunities, students acquire content knowledge, problem solving skills and a strong mathematics foundation.

### How you can support at home?

One question we are often asked by parents and guardians is how to support their children at home. This brochure is filled with ideas that you can use to make math a part of your daily conversations at home, in the car or anywhere that matters.

### Positive Attitudes towards Math

We have all heard someone say, “Well I was never a math person” or “Numbers aren’t my thing”. These negative statements affect our children’s achievement. Research shows us that we are all capable of high levels of achievement in mathematics and our attitude and mindset has a lot to do with it.

### Growth Mindset

Jo Boaler, professor of mathematics at Stanford University, has done a lot of research on Growth Mindset and its impact on student achievement. Learn more, visit [www.youcubed.org](http://www.youcubed.org). Boaler’s research suggests that the brain can grow, adapt and change in an incredibly short period of time.

### Make your home Math Friendly

You can make your home a math friendly place by adopting the mindset that we are all “math people”. Math is a valuable tool that we use to help us make sense of the world around us. You can create a mistake-friendly environment by:

- encouraging your child to explain their thinking for questions that are both correct and incorrect;
- asking your child to show their thinking using a diagram;
- remind your child that mistakes are okay – it’s part of the learning process;
- take breaks if your child is struggling - return with new ideas; and
- reinforces the importance of perseverance and determination – these traits will benefit your child throughout their life.

### Look for Math in Games

Games are a great opportunity to talk to your child about math. The best games are the ones that include an element of chance (rolling some dice) and an element of choice (which ones do I keep?).

Pause during the game and ask questions such as:

- “What do you think will happen here?” or
- “Have you considered all of your options?”
- “How many more points do you need to win?”

Games to consider are:

Farkle	Chess
Yahtzee	Go Fish
Pass The Pigs	Cribbage
Blokus	Monopoly
Checkers	Shut the Box

