**The Scottish Mathematical Council**
https://scottishmathematicalcouncil.org/

Dear Colleague,

## MATHÉMATIQUES SANS FRONTIÈRES

The Scottish Mathematical Council would like to welcome you to participate in the world-wide Mathematics and Language competition *Mathématiques sans Frontières.* We are hopeful that we continue to offer a stimulating and light-hearted competition which combines Mathematics and Modern Languages. For those of you who have not taken part previously, this competition aims to motivate pupils in these subjects, promote teamwork throughout pupils of all abilities, and bridge borders between countries across the world.

Please find attached a training test for *Mathématiques Sans Frontières* and one entry form for the competition proper. S4/GCSE classes should attempt questions 1-10 and S5/A-level classes questions 1-13.  A whole class should attempt the test with questions divided up between groups to ensure that the questions can be completed in the allotted time of 90 minutes. Question 1 will require an explanation in a foreign language.  We hope that this encourages cross-curricular working and teamwork. Answers are also attached so that teachers can provide useful feedback.

The competition proper will be held on Thursday 7 March 2024. All schools competing will receive a certificate. The winning entry will receive a prize. Previous prizes have including visits from science communicators, maths puzzle events, and donations to charities.

Schools who would like to register for the competition are kindly requested to complete the proforma attached and return by 26 January 2024.  We will send out the actual test as a PDF file by e-mail on the Friday prior to the test. We would therefore kindly ask you to ensure that the e-mail address provided is legible or, preferably, typed.  It would also be beneficial to provide an alternative e-mail address, which may help prevent firewall issues.

It was hoped that we'd have our new webpage up and running by today, where we'll include previous papers, an electronic sign-up form, and other information. Unfortunately, it isn't able to be made available just yet, but should be very soon. When available, you'll be able to access via https://scottishmathematicalcouncil.org/competitions/ .

We hope you will give serious consideration to entering the competition and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Alan J. Walker
Chair, Scottish Mathematical Council