

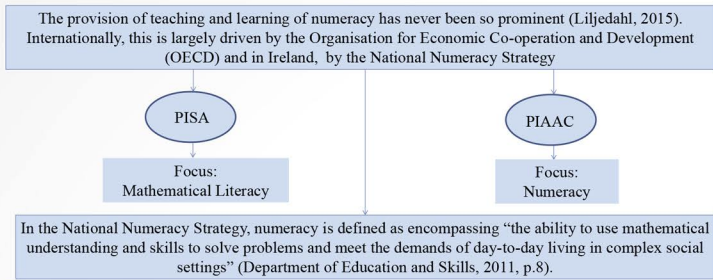
# AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE CONCEPT OF MATHS EYES WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE MATHS EYES POSTER COMPETITION

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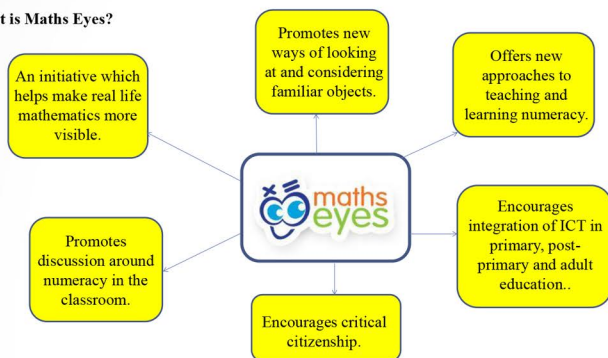
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**“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”  
- Marcel Proust**

## Rationale for the Study



## What is Maths Eyes?



## Maths Eyes Projects Internationally

There are a number of countries worldwide that are implementing Maths Eyes project and these are identified in green below.



## The National Maths Eyes/GeoGebra Poster Competition

The aim of the competition is for entrants to:

- Take a photograph in their local area.
- Come up with a tagline to highlight the mathematics that they see in the photograph.

The entries to the competition are increasing each year as shown in Table 1. Table 2 shows the variation of entries according to the strands of the school mathematics curriculum in Ireland.

Category:	Under 7	Under 11	Under 14	Under 18	Adult Education	Family/Community	GeoGebra	Total:
2013	17	135	240	59	5	91	34	581
2014	65	99	190	177	36	84	29	680
2015	51	169	158	353	10	39	24	804

Table 1. Number of entries submitted per year

Primary strands:	Data	Shape & Space	Number	Algebra	Measure	Miscellaneous/No Tagline
Under 7	0%	47%	45%	2%	0%	12%
Under 11	1%	41%	69%	3%	2%	4%
Post-primary:	Statistics & Probability	Geometry & Trigonometry	Number	Algebra	Functions	Miscellaneous/No Tagline
Under 14	2.5%	38.5%	60%	2%	0%	13%
Under 18	3%	55.5%	49%	2%	1%	15.5%
Adult Education	10%	10%	90%	0%	0%	0%
Family/Community	10%	59%	46%	2.5%	0%	10%
GeoGebra	0%	54%	8%	0%	25%	12.5%

Table 2. Percentage of entries submitted in each category which link to a particular strand/lens or no strand at all.

## Examples of Winning Posters in the Competition



Figure 1. Overall winner in GeoGebra category in 2014 competition

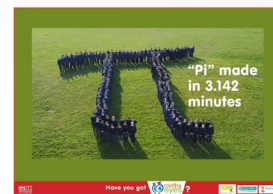


Figure 2. Overall winner in Family/Community category in 2015 competition



Figure 3. Runner-up winner in Family/Community category in 2015 competition



Figure 4. Runner-up winner in Under 14 category in 2015 competition

## Initial Evaluation

The Dominican Campus is a community of schools in a suburb of Dublin, including one post-primary school and three primary schools. Students and teachers from the 4 schools worked together, with the parents of the primary school students to design and produce a range of Maths Eyes posters to be entered into the national competition. An initial evaluation was conducted by the teachers and anecdotal evidence of the Dominican Campus involvement with the competition is presented below.

### What the teachers said:

“The children were motivated and active in their learning”

“The children could see how mathematics was useful to them in their environment”

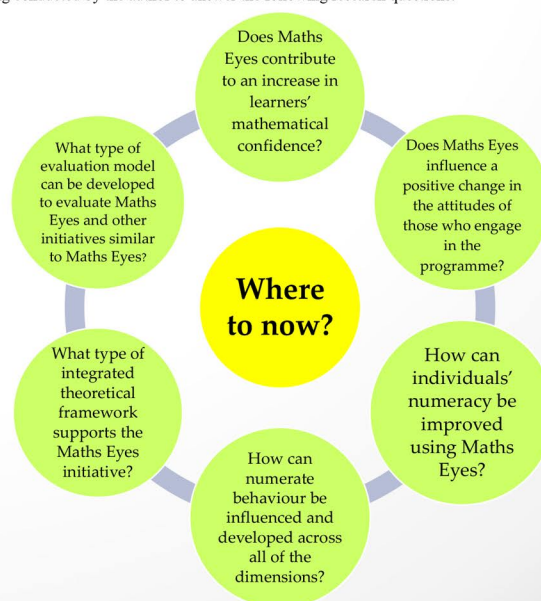
### What the parents said:

“I did not realise the mathematics that I do every day”

“I can now talk to my children about maths and its not just about homework”

## Future Research

Research is being conducted by the author to answer the following research questions:



## References

Department of Education and Skills (2011) Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life: The National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy Among Children and Young People 2011-2020, Dublin: Department of Education and Skills.

Liljedahl, P. (2015) 'Numeracy task design: a case of changing mathematics teaching practice', *Zdm*, 47(4), 625-637.