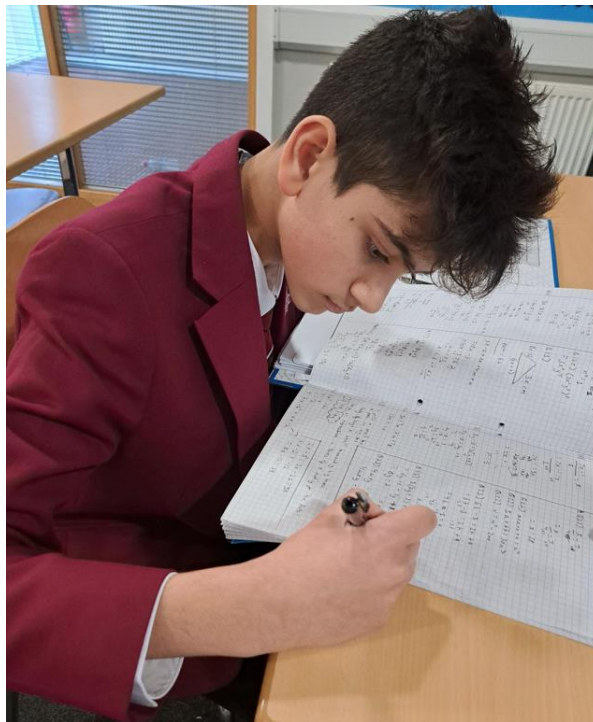


Fostering curiosity in maths



"It is important to approach Maths only in a spirit of curiosity and discovery."
~Shakuntala Devi

One of our most recent new starters in Lower 5, Marcus, has been demonstrating an avid curiosity in his mathematics lessons. Since he joined us, he has not ceased to challenge himself by asking and pursuing his own questions. His outstanding performance in the most recent assessment, and those in Upper 5 who achieved top grades in their January IGCSE mathematics examination, are a testament to the importance of asking questions in mathematics. Marcus rightly believes that knowing the reason behind every approach used in solving problems in mathematics will help him remember the skills needed to thrive in the subject. As teachers, this is music to our ears as we are always encouraging pupils to ask questions because they are both a way of revealing gaps in understanding and also the means to begin filling those gaps. Furthermore, there is a clear correlation between a curious approach and a pupil's level of achievement.

So, with this article, I would like to encourage all pupils at Gateways to continue with and/or inculcate the good learning habit of asking their teachers questions about things that they do not understand. Asking questions in mathematics lessons will enable pupils to think like a mathematician and will inevitably lead to new knowledge being constructed in the subject.

Mr Charles Adegboro