



How often have you heard someone say “I can’t do maths”? We don’t hear it about other subjects. You don’t hear people say “I can’t do English” or “I can’t do History”. This attitude, gained early in life, leads to poor performance and a lifelong lack of engagement with maths. Yet maths is all around us and everybody uses maths to some extent in their lives and everybody can “do maths”.

Maths Week Ireland will take place 15th - 19th October 2007. Events will take place around the island of Ireland to celebrate mathematics, its applications and its contribution to our society. We want to raise awareness, understanding and appreciation of maths. The particular week is special in the history of mathematics because it was on the 16th October 1843 while walking along the Royal Canal from Dunsink Observatory to the RIA William Rowan Hamilton in an epiphany, discovered quaternions. On "Hamilton Day" every year there is a commemorative walk from Dunsink to Brougham Bridge organised by NUI Maynooth. (assemble 2pm 16th October at Dunsink Observatory booking fiacre.ocairbre@maths.muim.ie). On the evening of the 16th is RIA’s the annual Hamilton Lecture in association with Irish Times and Depfa Bank. (booking at events on www.ria.ie). This year’s Hamilton Lecture “The universe is a strange place” is by Nobel Laureate Frank Wilczek .

Maths Week events are run by participating centres around Ireland - in third level colleges, schools, museums and libraries. This year is the first time there will be an event run in a pub –at The Alchemist Café presents Maths Magician Andrew Jeffrey at the Mercantile, in Dublin’s Dame Street

Full list of events is at www.mathsweek.ie

Stranmillis University College	Waterford Institute of Technology
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	University College Cork
Dublin Institute of Technology	University of Limerick
Dublin City University	National University of Ireland, Galway
Trinity College Dublin	Institute of Technology – Tralee
University College Dublin	Institute of Technology - Carlow
St Patrick's College, Drumcondra	National Museum of Ireland
Colaiste Mhuire Marino	Chester Beatty Library
Froebel College	Engineers Ireland
Dundalk Institute of Technology	Alchemist Café

Sponsors:

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Working with: Irish Maths Teachers Association, Irish Maths Society, Institute of Maths and its Applications (Irish Branch), Institute of Physics (Irish Branch), STEPS Engineers Ireland, Royal Irish Academy, Royal Dublin Society

Coordinated by:

CALMAST, Waterford Institute of Technology

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