

## **Section 6: Other Ideas to Involve Parents in Numeracy**

- Share ideas that encourage mathematics in everyday experiences, for example, in the car, supermarket, garage, sports field, kitchen, and garden.
- Invite parents into classrooms to share their stories about how they learnt mathematics at school. Discuss similarities and differences; consider different cultures and cross-curricular approaches.
- Include a cultural presentation at the beginning or end of a Home–School Partnership: Numeracy community session and involve the children and/or parents.
- Invite different cultural groups to share mathematics activities and games from their cultures.
- Ask parents to translate the Number Framework or key messages into their home language. These could be displayed in the school.
- Provide content workshops for parents to consolidate their own knowledge.
- Have a mathematics open day or morning, with children playing games, demonstrating equipment, or using computers with their family.
- Start a mathematics library of books and/or games.
- Read picture books with a mathematics context to your students just before home time to model shared reading and mathematics to parents.
- Have computers available for parents to use after school to support those who don't have a computer at home. Encourage exploration of the nzmaths website.
- Use the school newsletter to provide tips on mathematics or a weekly problem or game.
- Create a numeracy wall in your school foyer displaying items such as current numeracy activities, ways to help with numeracy at home, and numeracy problems.
- Have a celebration at the end of the Home–School Partnership: Numeracy series of sessions – perhaps a sports afternoon or a shared meal. Invite cultural groups to prepare food; this could be combined with health, technology, or social studies emphases. Recipes could be provided. Children could collect data, for example, on numbers coming or quantities needed.
- Survey parents at the end of the Home–School Partnership: Numeracy sessions to find out how things have gone, how they have applied the

mathematics ideas, which activities they enjoyed, what they would like in future, and so on.

- Consider repeats, for example, for new parents, or a two-year cycle.
- Remind parents of the Families section on the nzmaths website, Team-Up booklets, and reading books that have a mathematical content.
- Have a noticeboard in the school with photos of parents enjoying themselves at the first Home–School Partnership: Numeracy session, with space for comments if wanted. Parents coming into the school will see the photos and perhaps realise that Home–School Partnership: Numeracy may be less threatening and more fun than they thought.

