



POSTGRADUATE BULLETIN

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"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

[Henry Ford]



FAMILY SUPPORT

It has been said by respected politicians that the maintenance of the family as a coordinated and united institution is key to a nation's prosperity. It is amongst the family in particular where a young person's aptitudes, skills and propensities first become evident and where training can be arranged which enhance those skills. Given the opportunity to expand an inherent talent, the student enjoys training in that subject, a career pathway is mapped out and this leads later to the vital asset of job satisfaction, which is the person's own preserve. Britain's Ofsted Chief commented recently on the clear link between successful schools and parents who are interested in, and supportive of, their child's education. Strong parental and family support which continues during the postgraduate era similarly reaps positive results. This support can be provided by the immediate family, but would not exclude help available from further afield. Many readers will remember the valuable words spoken at the Orientation Week address at Meadowbank in 1994 –

"...we would look and hope and expect that the students will be able and ready to help one another. There is really no better person to learn from than somebody who is just ahead of you. The whole thing is fresh in their minds, they will be conscious of the certain unknown factor that confronts you when you are presented with new material, they have accepted the challenge and they have met it and they will very often be the best ones to help."

Such excellent support can come from the family, including parents and peers!

MATHS SKILLS FOR CIMA STUDENTS

CIMA knows that good maths skills are an essential underpinning for both their Certificate and Professional levels, so it is offering all CIMA students access to some **FREE** Maths modules. These will be particularly useful to CIMA Certificate students who transferred to the new syllabus in January 2017 without having completed the C03 module under the 2011 syllabus structure. They will also provide a useful revision tool for students studying at the CIMA Professional level. There are eight modules – Advanced Financial Mathematics, Basic Mathematics, Descriptive Statistics, Financial Mathematics, Forecasting, Forecasting – Correlation and Regression, Presenting Data, and Probability. If preferred, you can identify just those areas where you need to improve and use parts of the modules only.

Go to <https://connect.cimaglobal.com/groups/certificate-level-2017/resources> and search for 'Maths modules'.

V17 GEMS OF GOLD

- Everyone of us should shine.
- Step outside your comfort zone and just do it.
- The boat won't come in unless it's first sent out.

SO.....

ARE YOU UNLOCKING YOUR POTENTIAL?



Do you realise that you may have hidden abilities that until now have remained undetected?

FIND THEM AND UNLOCK THEM!

Everybody can do something and nothing ventured is nothing gained. So instead of leaving your talents hidden in the earth why not dig them up, train them, use them, trade with them, live off them and derive lifelong benefits from them? Find a postgraduate course that will expand your skills and provide you with a lifelong recognised qualification. Discuss postgraduate studies with your parents, with your local postgraduate studies coordinator and with your current or future employer and enrol for the postgraduate course that most suits you. It's just not worth doing nothing about it. You will never be the same age again and your brain is most fertile and retentive during your teens and twenties.

SHARE THE INSPIRATION!

We would like to publish some more "gems of gold" from the Vision 17 event in the next few issues of this Bulletin. We therefore invite you to submit some suggestions of content to be included. What was said that you found particularly inspirational? Are you prepared to share it with us?

Please send your suggestions to giles.bennett@focus-school.com

NEATLY DOES IT

It's a great shame when a smart candidate fails a written exam simply because the examiner has to wade through almost illegible scripts. A former examiner for an accountancy body recently commented that he couldn't stress to exam sitters enough the importance of presenting scripts in a neat, readable way. It's up to candidates to help the examiner to give them a pass by taking note of this advice.

EXAM PREPARATION

In last month's Bulletin we included an item on Revision Tips. In this Bulletin we would like to tell you about a recent experiment affecting the hours immediately prior to sitting an exam. Researchers at a Medical School asked volunteers to attend an 80-minute lecture. They were then split into three groups. One group went back over their notes for an hour, the second group watched a film and the final group took a nap. The groups were then asked to sit an exam containing 360 questions on the content of the lecture. The result: those who took a nap scored highest, those who had revised came next and those who sat in front of a film did markedly worse!

Moral: ensure you are **physically and mentally fresh** when approaching an exam.

"Good, better, best. Never let it rest until your good is better and your better is best."