

Mathematics Message from Richard Marumani

I hope that I find you well and safe. This week I briefly share a few ideas on instilling confidence among learners by our teachers.

Self-confidence is largely based on our past experiences and is gradually reinforced by successes of all natures—social, emotional, intellectual, and more. It's important for students to feel confident because if they don't, they simply don't learn as fast or gain the fluency they need.

A confident learner is a happy and productive one, and every teacher wants a class full of them. Building student confidence begins in any space where meaningful learning is encouraged and supported. Enlighten your teachers on the following issues:

- Set goals together
- Give useful feedback
- Show that effort is normal
- Affirm your students, praise and encourage your students
- Teach in context
- Give them chances to succeed
- Make all learning goal-oriented
- Model confidence
- Be prepared to teach
- Accept mistakes with grace
- Challenge them academically
- Allow your students many opportunities for success
- Foster creativity in the classroom