

Dear Parents / Guardians,

This letter is to all parents and guardians of students going into Year 8, 9 and 10 in 2017 and is regarding scientific calculators in Mathematics courses. Samaritan College (Saint John's Campus) uses Texas Instruments (TI) graphics calculators in the senior years (Year 11 and 12 Mathematical Methods and General Mathematics). We would like to recommend that junior students also use this brand of calculator but the scientific version (TI-30XBMVIEW) to ensure a smooth transition.

Key features of the TI-30XBMVIEW:

Maths Notation

Enter and view calculations in common Maths Notation via the MATHPRINT mode, including symbolic pi, stacked fractions, exponents and exact square roots.

Up to 4 lines of Display

Ability to enter more than one calculation, compare results and explore patterns, all on the same screen.

Toggle Key

Quickly view fractions and decimals in alternate forms. "Toggle" the answer with one button to see outcomes in different representations, including changing answers between the exact form of fractions, π terms and square root expressions, where possible, into decimal approximation format.

Scrolling

Scroll through previous entries and investigate critical patterns as well as viewing and pasting previous entries or answers into a new calculation.

Previous Entry

Lets you review previous entries and look for patterns.

Menus

Easy to read and navigate pull-down menus similar to those on a graphing calculator. All mode settings are located in one central place, the mode screen.

Fraction features

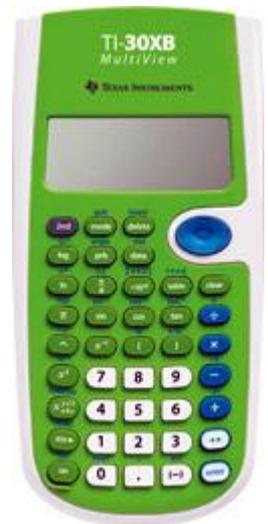
View and perform fraction computations and explorations in familiar textbook format.

Scientific Notation Output

View scientific notation with the proper superscripted exponents and see the output in scientific notation.

Table feature

Students can easily explore an (x,y) table of values for a given function, automatically or by entering specific x values.



The College has managed to negotiate a special deal through Abacus Calculators and Resources. The TI-30XBMVIEW scientific calculator is available to you at **\$23.00** Inc GST (RRP from other sources range from \$29.95 to \$44.95). If you are interested in making use of this offer, please use the attached information to place an **ORDER ONLINE** at any time between the 1st of December 2016 and the 20th of January 2017. The calculators will be delivered to the College as soon as the orders are processed and will be distributed to your child as they arrive at the start of Term 1 in 2017. If you have any questions in this regard, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Miss Cristina Torres

Mathematics Coordinator