

FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

EASTER TERM 2011

CAMBRIDGE COLLOQUIA IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

Monday 16th May 2011 at 5.00 p.m., Room 205, Mary Allan Building, Hills Road

Rose Griffiths, University of Cambridge and University of Leicester

MATHEMATICS AND CHILDREN IN CARE

'Looked-after' children in the UK are acknowledged to have much lower levels of educational achievement than should be expected, and some of the causes of this underachievement are likely to have a particular impact on mathematics. This session will give a brief picture of the experience of five children aged 8 to 11 (looking at counting and arithmetic in their foster homes and at school), then focus on film of an interview with one boy working on $O+7$, together with his commentary on his own learning.

Monday 6th June 2011 at 5.00 p.m., Room 205, Mary Allan Building, Hills Road

Professor Fan Lianghuo, University of Southampton

RECENT REFORM AND ISSUES IN MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM IN CHINA

The last decade has witnessed a most significant and ambitious reform in mathematics curriculum in China in relation to structure, aims and objectives, content coverage, textbook development, classroom instruction and student assessment. This colloquium will present an overview of this reform, and discuss relevant issues encountered during the reform process. Particular attention will be paid to the strengths and weaknesses of the traditional Chinese classroom practices and how teaching and learning has been affected by the recent curriculum reforms. The speaker will also discuss the so-called "Chinese Learner Paradox" and why Shanghai students were the best performers in the recent PISA study.

Tea and coffee will be available before each meeting. All are very welcome.

For directions to the Mary Allan Building and any other information, contact

Tim Rowland at tr202@cam.ac.uk