

**February 2009**

**Chrisanne Kouzas, Vidhya Jayawardena, Nicholas Pardesi, Michael Ridgwell and Daniel Rothschild obtain distinctions in Maths and Science**

Once again, as in previous years, there were distinctions amongst our Maths Success students. In addition, learners from a variety of different backgrounds achieved outstanding results. Here is some background as to how Chrisanne, Vidhya, Nicholas, Michael and Daniel managed to achieve them:

**Chrisanne Kouzas** from Hyde Park High School started her lessons with Maths Success towards the end of April last year. She was an above average student and got a B symbol for maths and C for science in her Grade 11 exams. During her first assessment/evaluation lesson, I realised that she was capable of achieving a distinction and a program was set up to fulfil her potential. Her efforts were richly rewarded when she achieved her distinction in maths in the November IEB exams. Apart from her 83% for maths she also got 75% for science and five other distinctions. She was very happy with her results. One reason she did so well, she told me, was because of the way I teach and the way I connect with young people. Chrisanne will take a gap year in 2009 and, because of her good results, will be able to study next year either in South Africa or overseas.

**Vidhya Jayawardena** from Rand Park High School started her lessons with me in April 2004 when she was in Grade 8. She wanted to do well in maths and science every year, all the way to matric. Her dedicated work was well rewarded when she obtained a distinction in maths and a great 78% pass in science. She also got four other distinctions: English, Accounting, Life Orientation and Business Studies. She will study accounting at Wits this year.

**Nicholas Pardesi** from Northcliff High School started his lessons with Maths Success in August last year. He was very motivated to improve on his mid-year results. His efforts were richly rewarded when he obtained a distinction in maths in his November exams. Nicholas also obtained a distinction in Accounting, IT and Business Economics. He will study further this year at Wits University.

**Michael Ridgwell** from Abbots College started his lessons with Maths Success in January last year. He was a second child from the same family who came to me for lessons – I helped his brother, Edward, in matric in 2006. Michael was doing maths literacy and only got 44% in science in Grade 11. He did not want to drop science to a lower grade so a program was set up for him to achieve a much higher science result. He was very enthusiastic about his studies and achieved an outstanding 67% pass in his matric exam. That is a superb improvement of 23% on his Grade 11 results! He also obtained a distinction in maths. This year he will start studying for an LLB degree at Varsity College.

**Daniel Rothschild** from St John's College started his lessons with Maths Success in February last year. He was an above average student who wanted to do really well in matric. His efforts were

well rewarded when he obtained 93% for maths and 88% for science. Daniel also got a distinction in English, Life Orientation and music. His music distinction came from Trinity School in London. Because of his outstanding results Daniel will be able to study either in South Africa or overseas.

There were other matric students who, although did not get distinctions, achieved outstanding results:

**Valerie Bekker** from Hyde Park High School started her lessons with Maths Success in February 2007 in Grade 11. She was getting a C for maths and D for science. She worked diligently in both Grade 11 and 12 and obtained a great 78% pass for maths and 72% for science in her matric exams. She obtained distinctions in Life Orientation and Life Sciences. Because of her large improvement in Maths and Science she enrolled at Wits to study genetics and biology.

**Jason Manson-Kuhn** from Hyde Park High School started her lesson with Maths Success at end of April last year. He was struggling with both maths and science getting around 38% for both subjects. With constant encouragement from Maths Success he steadily improved and achieved an outstanding 68% for both maths and science in the November IEB exams. That is a fantastic 30% improvement in one year!

Chrisanne, Vidhya, Nicholas, Michael, Daniel, Valerie and Jason achieved their results because they wanted to do well and were willing to listen to any follow my advice. I congratulate them all on their efforts and wish them every success in the future.