

The Mathematicians' Christmaths Reunion Dinner



Leonhard Euler 1707 - 1783
Born in Basel, Switzerland

Equation of Life

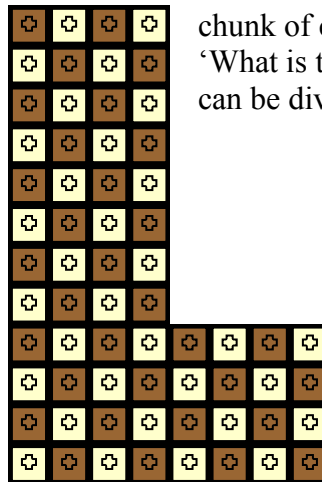
Make the following equation true. You may use the 4 operations (+ - x ÷) and brackets. For example, Albert Einstein 1879 - 1955 could be: $18-7+9 = 19+5\div5$.

$$1707 = 1783$$

Euler's polyhedron theorem shows a relationship between the number of faces, edges and vertices on solid shapes.



Euler excitedly unwrapped his gift - a large chunk of Swiss chocolate. It was in the shape of a letter L and consisted of alternate square pieces of white and dark chocolate, each of the 64 pieces was stamped on the top with the Swiss cross - as shown below. 'L for Leonhard,' Santa explained, 'I thought you would like a change from the variety that your country produces in triangular prisms!' Euler was very grateful and of course happy to share. So he studied the chunk of chocolate as Santa prepared the coffee. 'What is the maximum number of pieces into which this chocolate L can be divided without any 2 pieces being exactly alike?'



After Dinner Riddle

If it takes 10 elves 10 days to build a giant snowman, how long will it take 5 elves to build half a giant snowman?

[upon losing the use of his right eye]
Now I will have less distraction. Euler.