## ACHIEVING MASTERY FOR PRIMARY MATHEMATICS

Thinking of new ways to help your child achieve excellence in their tests and examinations? The days of blindly practising general assessment books, which do little for pupils' consolidation of concepts or scoring of high marks, are over.

n recent years, there is a greater emphasis placed on developing pupils' thinking, reasoning, application, and metacognition skills. Instead of run-of-the-mill questions, the questions in Maths tests and examinations these days are challenging but not in a way that requires lengthy solutions. They test pupils' thinking and processing skills instead of their ability to deal with large numbers.

## Example:

A path of length 840 cm is completely covered with identical tiles following the pattern shown below. The width of the path is 12 cm .

(a) What is the length of $X Y$ ?
(b) How many tiles are used to cover the entire path?

The 'trick' to solving this question is to recognise that the length of a tile is
 twice the breadth of a tile. We use this information to find the length of $X Y$ and then the number of tiles that are used to cover the entire path of length 840 cm . Once this first hurdle is conquered, the rest of the puzzle will fall into place.

By attempting the questions found in Maths Top the Class by Topic series and Maths Top the Class Term and Semestral Papers series, pupils will gain more exposure to commonly-tested questions found in PSLE papers and papers from top Singapore schools.


