22 February 2016

Dear Parents,

ICAS Competitions – Year 2 (Maths, English, Science & Spelling only)
ICAS Competitions - Years 3-6 (All tests)
Australian Maths Competition - Years 3-6 only

Throughout the year a range of competitions and challenges are held, offering students opportunities to challenge themselves and develop their skills and strategies in different contest situations. While Years 3 to 6 students can enter for all tests, Year 2 students are only able to enter ICAS Maths, English, Science and Spelling. Consideration should always be given to the appropriateness of the competition to your child’s individual interests and needs.

Detailed below is information regarding the 2016 ICAS Competitions and the 2016 Australian Mathematics Competition. If you would like your child to enter any of these competitions, please complete the attached form and return it with your payment by Friday, 4 March.

Digital Technologies (Computer Skills)  Years 3-6
The ICAS Digital Technologies Competition will be held on Tuesday, 17 May.
There are 30 – 45 items in each paper, depending on the year level, assessing skills in common operating systems and hardware, word processing, graphics and multimedia, spreadsheets and databases, internet and email, and programming and scripting. The cost of this competition is $8.00.

Science  Years 2-6
The ICAS Science Competition will be held on Tuesday, 31 May.
There are 30 – 45 individual items in each paper, depending on the year level, which require students to apply their knowledge, skills and understanding across five skills areas of observing/measuring, interpreting, predicting/concluding and investigating and reasoning/problem solving. The cost of this competition is $8.00.

Writing  Years 3-6
The ICAS Writing competition will be held in the week beginning Monday, 13 June.
Students will have their skills assessed in writing an extended response to a given task. The writing task is criteria referenced and assessed by trained markers. The genre being assessed will be narrative writing. The cost of this competition is $17.00.
Spelling Years 2 - 6
The ICAS Spelling Competition will be held on Wednesday, 15 June.
This paper is developed in partnership with Macquarie Dictionary and is an independent assessment that can provide detailed feedback on your child’s spelling abilities. It assesses students’ skills at spelling words in four different contexts: dictation, proofreading, error correction and applying rules and conventions. The cost of this competition is $11.00.

English Years 2-6
The ICAS English Competition will be held on Tuesday, 2 August.
There are 35 – 60 items in each paper, depending on the year level, which require students to apply their knowledge, skills and understanding to locate, identify, interpret, infer and synthesise information in and about texts. Students read a range of texts that cover different forms and purposes. The cost of this competition is $8.00.

AMC Maths Years 3-6
The Australian Mathematics Competition, run by the Australian Mathematics Trust, will be held on Thursday, 28 July. Students answer 30 problems in 60 minutes. Problems are generally easy at the start of the paper and become progressively more difficult until the end when they are challenging to the most gifted students. Students of all standards will progress and find a point of challenge. The cost of this competition is $6.00.

Mathematics Years 2-6
The ICAS Mathematics Competition will be held on Tuesday, 16 August.
There are 30 – 40 items in each paper, depending on the year level, which require students to apply their knowledge, skills and understanding across the skills areas of number and arithmetic; algebra and patterns; measurement; space and geometry and chance and data. The cost of this competition is $8.00.

Please complete the attached reply slip and return it with your payment by Friday, 4 March. Late returns will not be accepted.

Preparation information for the ICAS competitions is available at:
www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation
and for the Australian Mathematics Competition at:
www.amt.edu.au/mathematics/amc

Regards,

Angela Langford
Competitions Co-ordinator
2016 Competitions  Due Friday, 4 March

Please mark the boxes to indicate which competitions you wish your child to enter.

☐ Computer Skills ICAS (Yr 3-6 only)    $8.00
☐ Science ICAS                       $8.00
☐ Writing ICAS (Yr 3-6 only)         $17.00
☐ Spelling ICAS                      $11.00
☐ English ICAS                       $8.00
☐ Maths ICAS                         $8.00
☐ AMC Maths (Yr 3-6 only)            $6.00

Total:  $ ______

Student Name: ________________________________
Class: _________  Year Level: _________

I enclose payment of $___________ by cash / cheque (Please note Bpay is not available for Competition payments.)

Parent Name: ____________________________
Parent Signature: _________________________