



International Competitions and Assessments for Schools 2011

Dear Parents

At Victoria Avenue School we use a wide range of standardised assessment tools to monitor student achievement and progress, diagnose areas for further development and design teaching programmes to meet student needs. These include:

- Progress and Achievement Tests (PAT) in Reading Comprehension, Reading Vocabulary and Mathematics
- Assessment Tools for Teaching and Learning (asTTLe) in Reading, Writing and Mathematics
- SspA test for spelling which has been introduced this year
- Individual assessments in both literacy and numeracy

In addition to our school assessments we are offering students in Years 4 to 6 the opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for School (ICAS) in both English and Mathematics. These are standardised tests conducted by The University of New South Wales, which will also provide some information of your child's achievement in these areas.

Participation in these tests is optional. As not all students at Victoria Avenue School will be sitting each ICAS test we are unable to use the tests to report valid school-wide data, however we do recognise the value of these tests to individuals. Completion of the tests will not only provide your child with experience in sitting an external test, the results will allow your child to monitor their progress from year to year and identify areas for further focus.

Every student entering ICAS receives a University of NSW certificate acknowledging their participation. University of NSW Medals and High Distinction, Distinction and Credit Certificates acknowledge exceptional achievement. In addition to a certificate of achievement, all participating students receive a detailed results letter indicating which questions they answered correctly, identifying the skill tested in each question and indicating the number of students across New Zealand who answered each question correctly. Careful analysis of the results letter, in conjunction with the test booklet, will provide a valuable learning experience. We encourage you to review tests with your child once the results page is received.

Subject	Date of Test
English	Tuesday 2 August
Mathematics	Tuesday 16 August

For further information on the test visit www.eaa.unsw.edu.au. This site provides further background to the tests as well as some practice questions at each level and in each subject.

Attached is a registration form that itemises the available ICAS tests, dates of administration and cost. If you wish your child to sit any of the ICAS tests please complete the registration form and return to the school office with the full payment by **Friday 6 May**. Please note that this will be the final day for processing entries for all tests.

Regards

Anne Bridgman
Assistant Principal



International Competitions and Assessments for Schools Registration Form - 2011

Child's Name: _____

Year Level: _____

Room: _____

ICAS Test	Date of Test	Cost	Please tick
English	Tuesday 2 August	\$7.50	
Mathematics	Tuesday 16 August	\$7.50	
Total Cost (<i>Payment must be included</i>)			

Our preferred method of payment is Electronic Banking to:
ASB Bank A/C 12-3030- 0475799-00
Please indicate the Student Name in the reference field.

Alternatively, please make cheques payable to Victoria Avenue School

**NB – All registrations in the ICAS tests are required by
Friday 6 May.**