2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Dear Parent,

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in twenty countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

ICAS:
- is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2–12;
- assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing
- gathers performance information through a 30–60 minute supervised in-school test
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student’s performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling
- enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point
- uses fellow students’ results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia
- provides an excellent preparation for national testing
- enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement
- medals are awarded to the top students per state in each subject and year level (when sufficiently meritorious and the test was sat on the official sitting date)
- achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:
  1. High Distinction to the top 1% of students
  2. Distinction to the next 10% of students
  3. Credit to the next 25% of students
  4. Merit to the next 10% of students
  5. Participation to all other students

- results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely.
- ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student’s portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities
- entries are administered through the school, so teachers can also access the information

To enrol your child in the ICAS tests being offered at your child’s school, please complete the registration form and return it, to your school by Friday 18th March 2016.

For more information about ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au, contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or send an email to info@eaa.unsw.edu.au

Your child can also prepare for ICAS using Practice Online. Practice Online tests are available for English, Mathematics and Science. Find out more about Practice Online at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online

Yours sincerely

Dr Sofia Kesidou
Group Executive
Educational Assessment Australia

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Years 3-6 Registration Form

Please return this form to the school office by Friday 18th March 2016. Forms returned after this date may be too late for the close of registration date for some competitions and your child will not be able to participate.

I give permission for my child

Child's name

of

Class

to participate in the following 2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter by ticking the last column

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject/Paper</th>
<th>Official Sitting Date</th>
<th>Please tick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>31 May 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>15 June 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2 August 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>16 August 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals. However, your school may choose to sit at another time to fit in with other school activities and routines.

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Kind Regards,
Mrs Moira Batthika and Mrs Charlene Sheraton
ICAS Competition Organisers