



FARM COVE INTERMEDIATE

27 February 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

RE: International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) - 2018

Your child is invited to take part in the 2018 ICAS Competition. This is an opportunity for students to sit formal examinations which assess higher order thinking and problem-solving skills.

All students receive an individual marking letter indicating which questions they answered correctly compared with the average mark for their country. It is a useful aid for pointing out a student's strengths and weaknesses.

All students receive certificates, suitable for framing or inclusion in an employment portfolio. The certificates are awarded for each school year as follows:

- High Distinction - top 1% in the country
- Distinction - next 10% in the country
- Credit - next 20% in the country
- Participation - to all students who do not qualify for one of the certificates above

The school receives valuable data comparing students as a group to others across the country and indicating strengths and weaknesses. The question booklets are retained after the competition and serve as a valuable resource for students and teachers, but can be collected when results are available. Students will have the opportunity to practice items from previous test papers donated by past pupils.

The fee per exam is \$9.50 for Digital Technologies, Science, English and Mathematics. The Writing Competition is \$20.50 and the Spelling Competition is \$11.50 as these are assessed by experienced markers, unlike the other competitions which are scanned by computers. While this activity will enhance your child's learning it is not part of the delivery of the curriculum.

Preferred methods of payments are via our online school shop. We also accept payment by cash or cheque; payment in these forms should be sealed in a labelled envelope and placed in the secure payment box in the Library. Payment may be made at the school office by EFTPOS. **Please do not make payments directly to our school bank account.**

All payments must be made by **Wednesday, 14 March 2018**. Late entries cannot be accepted. Regardless of payment method, please ensure that the return slip is placed in a sealed envelope with the student's full name, Area/homegroup and Year clearly written on it, then placed in the secure payment box in the library. If a return slip is not received, your child will not be entered into the exams.

Yours faithfully

Tamara Jones
Assistant Principal/TIC ICAS

Student's name: _____ Area/Homegroup: ____/____ Year: 7 / 8

Sitting Exam ✓	Subject	Cost \$	Date sitting
	Digital Technologies	9.50	8 May
	Science	9.50	29 May
	Writing	20.50	14 June
	Spelling	11.50	13 June
	English	9.50	31 July
	Maths	9.50	14 August
	TOTAL		

Payment method (circle one) EFTPOS School Shop Cash/Cheque

Date Paid _____

Parent's signature _____