



Dear Parent,

On Thursday, 6 August 2009 the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) will be held for the 32nd time and we are pleased to invite your child to enter this world-wide competition, via their school. The AMC started in 1978 and has been run every year since then. In that time, it has become the largest single event on the Australian Education Calendar, allowing students to attempt the same tasks on the same day. It has become a truly international event, with countries throughout the Pacific and South East Asia, and even further afield taking part.

The aims of the Competition are three-fold:

1. To highlight the importance of mathematics as a curriculum subject
2. To give students an opportunity to discover talent in mathematics
3. To provide resources for the classroom and general discussion

The AMC is for students of all standards. The first 20 questions are intended to be directly familiar to students from their classroom experience. The later problems are more difficult and may be in unexpected contexts, but they have been graded to ensure that the skills required are commensurate with those taught at that level in each Australian State and New Zealand.

All students receive a certificate acknowledging their performance and a detailed report showing how they went on each problem with wider statistical rankings.

The AMC is administered by the non-profit Australian Mathematics Trust, which has representatives on its Board from the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers, Australian Academy of Science and Australian Mathematical Society. A vast network of volunteers from these professional societies and from the teaching profession ensures the highest quality of question paper, renowned over its lifetime for its originality and mathematical and typographical accuracy.

The AMC is not a stand-alone event but provides opportunity for students to attempt further enrichment activities offered by the Trust including the Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians, and the Australian Mathematical Olympiad Program. We encourage teachers to consider the other competitions and programs offered by the Trust:

- Maths Challenge Stage – 3 week program to be completed by 12 June 2009
- Maths Enrichment Stage – 16 week program between April & September 2009
- Australian Informatics Competition (AIC) – Competition Date 7 May 2009
- Rio Tinto Big Science Competition (RTBSC) – Competition Date 21 May 2009

The Australian Mathematics Trust also publishes a number of mathematics books. These and past AMC papers are available from our web site at www.amt.edu.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in orange ink, appearing to read 'P.J. Taylor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Professor Peter Taylor
Executive Director
Australian Mathematics Trust