



April 2011

Dear Parent

The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) will be held for the 34th time on Thursday 4 August 2011. Your child is invited to enter this internationally recognised competition through their school.

Believed to be the largest annual event on the Australian education calendar, the AMC was the first competition of its kind, starting here in 1978 and now one of the largest of its type in the world. More than 40 countries participate each year.

The competition aims to be accessible to all students from Years 3 to 12, not just the mathematically gifted. There is an emphasis on problem solving, a valuable life skill, and the questions are designed to be fun for the student. The AMC consists of five separate papers, each with 30 questions in the Middle Primary (Years 3 and 4), Upper Primary (Years 5 and 6), Junior (Years 7 and 8), Intermediate (Years 9 and 10) and Senior (Years 11 and 12) divisions. Time allowed is 60 minutes for the primary papers and 75 minutes for the secondary papers.

Over 1,000 students share the prizes and around 50% of participants qualify to receive a Certificate of High Distinction, Distinction or Credit. All other entrants in the competition receive a Certificate of Participation or a Proficiency Certificate. All students are also provided with a detailed report showing how they performed on each problem with wider statistical rankings.

Although it is aimed at the average student, the AMC also identifies gifted students. A prestigious Australian Mathematics Competition medal is awarded to students with an outstanding result, both within a region and overall in the competition. It is worth noting that Australia's leading mathematicians aged under 40 were discovered and developed as a result of taking part in the AMC.

The AMC is administered by the not-for-profit Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT), which is under the Trusteeship of the University of Canberra. The problems created for AMC papers are set to the highest possible standards by volunteer teams of the most experienced mathematics teachers and academics in the country. The Australian Mathematics Trust has an unparalleled, unblemished record for the integrity and reliability of its papers.

To assist both students and parents, there are selected practice problems available for download from the AMT website. AMT publications and past papers may also be purchased. The website www.amt.edu.au provides details of other valuable mathematics and informatics (computer science) enrichment programs offered by the AMT. You can contact the AMT office by emailing amc@amt.edu.au or phoning (02) 6201 5137 within Australia or +61 2 6201 5137 from outside Australia. You can also find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter to keep informed about Australian Mathematics Trust news and events.

We commend the AMC to you as an opportunity to encourage your child in the study of mathematics. Furthermore, we hope that your child will be able to have the valuable experience of taking part in this year's competition and we wish them all the best for the future.

Yours sincerely

Professor Peter Taylor
Executive Director