



NORTHOAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Letter to Parents 15/2017

14 February 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians,

CURRICULUM MATTERS

University of New South Wales International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (UNSW ICAS)

We are offering the opportunity for your child/ ward to participate in the University of New South Wales International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). The competitions are open to all Primary 3 and Primary 4 students this year. These competitions are in the form of written tests and are sat in various subjects by thousands of children in New Zealand, Australia and Asia.

Students will obtain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation and be recognised and awarded achievements at all levels. Participants will receive a certificate and a detailed report highlighting their strengths and areas for improvement. Your child/ ward's participation in the competitions is **optional**.

Competition Dates and Fees

The dates and fees of the competitions are as stated in the table below. Please note that the competitions will be conducted **after school in the afternoon (details will be released later to participating students)**. As the dates for the sitting of the competitions are fixed under the ICAS regulation, no student will be allowed to sit for any competitions after the stipulated dates. Thus, no refund will be made if your child/ward misses the competition.

Subject	Date of Competition	Entry fee including GST
Science	18 April 2017	\$9.00
English	11 July 2017	\$9.00
Mathematics	25 July 2017	\$9.00

Young Scientist Badge Scheme

As part of the school's Science curriculum to stimulate interest in the subject and promote self-directed learning, all Primary 3 and 4 students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Young Scientist Badge Scheme in 2017. The teachers will go through some of the activities in the Young Scientist Card to earn the stars and parents may also help their child complete other activities. Students may purchase the Young Science Card in the following Science disciplines and have the opportunities to develop initiative and creativity by completing the activities stipulated in the card.

Level	Title of Young Scientist Card	Cost
Primary 3	Young Zoologist Card	\$2.50
Primary 4	Young Botanist Card	\$2.50

In guiding students' understanding and completion of the activities, Science teachers will provide advice and feedback as to how they can complete the activities well. Students will need to complete activities that are worth at least 15 stars and submit their completed cards to their Science teachers for acknowledgement. This has to be done by 14 July 2017 so that students will be awarded the Young Scientist Badge. This is also an opportune time for parent-child bonding as parents may also participate in this scheme by acknowledging the completion of up to 6 stars worth of activities and/or working with your child on some of the activities.

Registration and Payment

Please fill in the attached Reply Slip to indicate your option for your child/ ward to participate in the ICAS competition(s) and/or Young Scientist Badge scheme **latest by 16 February 2017 (Thursday)**. Payment can be made in cash or by cheque. For cash payment, please seal the exact amount of money in an envelope. For cheque payment, it has to be made payable to "Northoaks Primary School". Late entries and request for changes after submission will not be accepted.

In partnership with you

Mrs Theresa Hong
Principal



NORTHOAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Reply Slip

Name of student: _____ ()

Class: _____

Please tick (√) to indicate your option for your child/ ward's participation.

	I would like my child/ ward to participate in the UNSW ICAS .
	I would <u>NOT</u> like my child/ ward to participate in any of the UNSW ICAS

	I would like my child/ ward to participate in the Young Scientist Badge Scheme .
	I would <u>NOT</u> like my child/ ward to participate in the Young Scientist Badge Scheme .

I hereby give permission to my child/ ward to participate in the UNSW ICAS and/ or Young Scientist Badge scheme and agree to pay the total fees stated below.

Subject	Entry Fee including GST	Please tick (√) accordingly
English Language	\$9.00	
Mathematics	\$9.00	
Science	\$9.00	
Programme		
Young Scientist Card	\$2.50	
Total Fees		

Parent's signature & Date: _____