### Important Dates

- **Fri 30 May**: SchoolRegistrations close
- **Fri 11 July**: Challenges available online
- **Sat 12 July**: Week Challenge Period begins
- **Fri 1 August**: Team Timetables issued
- **From 11 August**: Challenge Period ends

### Regional Tournaments

- **Sat 23 August**: Central Victoria Region (La Trobe University, Bendigo)
- **Sun 24 August**: Geelong Region (Deakin University, Warrnambool)
- **Sat 23 August**: Gippsland Region (Morarsh University, Churchill)
- **Sat 23 August**: Goulburn Valley Region (Valleymount, Greensborough)
- **Sat 23 August**: Loddon Region (Swinburne University, Loddon)
- **23 & 24 August**: Metro Central Region (Swinburne University, Hawthorn)
- **23 & 24 August**: Metro Northern Region (La Trobe University, Bendigo)

### State & National Finals

- **14 September**: State Final (La Trobe University, Bendigo)
- **25 October**: Australian Pacific Final (La Trobe University, Bendigo)

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### Resources

#### Long Term & 3-Hour Challenges

Each program includes Language, Literature, Maths, Engineering and Social Sciences Challenges. These provide excellent curriculum material for middle groups and are well suited to high ability learners. They complement units of work in Maths, English, Technology, SOSE, History and Geography with whole class or small groups.

#### Spontaneous Challenges

The Spontaneous Challenges can be used with whole class or small groups: as part of a program to develop problem-solving and creative thinking; as early morning class warm ups; and to develop problem-solving skills necessary for TOM.

#### Informative TOM DVD

Discover Tournament of Minds! This 30-minute DVD outlines the structure of the program with contributions from students, parents and team facilitators. Successful strategies used in developing the necessary team skills are also outlined.

Order these materials on the form.

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### Workshops

Tournament of Minds offers a range of valuable Professional Development Workshops. Workshop dates and costs are included in the registration form below.

#### Introduction to TOM

This workshop will provide new facilitators and coordinators with an overview of Tournament of Minds, including:

- The benefits of TOM for students, teachers and schools
- Team selection processes and integration of TOM into the weekly timetable
- The administration of TOM – team management, parents, meetings, staff support
- Valuable classroom strategies for your team
- Practical strategies for linking strategies to key learning domains in the new VELS curriculum

#### Advanced Thinking Skills

Usually conducted over two sessions, this workshop is for those who wish to challenge and further the thinking of their students whilst successfully incorporating outcomes from the new VELS domains.

- **Session 1**: Why TOM is a valuable experience and what does it offer students?
- **Session 2**: What is problem-solving, and how to walk the students through a problem solving process, how to approach the TOM Challenge; Challenge selection; analysis and creating a Challenge solution.
- Working group skills
- Spontaneous Challenge – ability to focus, generating ideas, organisation and evaluation.

#### Unpacking the Challenges

This workshop will provide practical strategies to social facilitators and coordinators in getting their teams on track for the Regional Tournaments. It is a one-off workshop run just after the Long Term Challenges have been released, providing an opportunity to explore the Challenges and their intricacies. This is a popular workshop, so book early to avoid disappointment.

### The Magic of Thinking

This promises to be one of the most practical and entertaining workshops that you will ever attend. If you want to know how to encourage lots of stimulating and inspiring thinking in your students and TOM teams, this workshop is for you. It is presented by well-known educational consultant and prolific writer of books on effective thinking and learning, Tony Ryan.

### Student Incursions

Over 750 students were involved in our inaugural program in 2007. TOM will be a workshop for you based on the TOM principle of creative problem solving in a cooperative learning environment. For full details and costs please call Geraldine Nicholas at the TOM Office on 9818 9311 Wednesdays to Fridays.

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### 2008 Workshops

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<thead>
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<th>Qty</th>
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<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2008 Workshops</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. The Magic of Thinking with Tony Ryan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Introduction to TOM (2 Days)</td>
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<td>3. Introduction to TOM (1 Day)</td>
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<td>4. Introduction to TOM (3 Days)</td>
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<td>5. Advanced Thinking Skills (3 Days)</td>
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<td>6. Introduction to TOM (2 Days)</td>
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<td>7. Advanced Thinking Skills (2 Days)</td>
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<td>8. Introduction to TOM (5 Days)</td>
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<td>9. Advanced Thinking Skills (2 Days)</td>
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<td>10. Introduction to TOM (4 Days)</td>
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<td>11. Unpacking the Challenges (1 Day)</td>
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<td>12. Advanced Thinking Skills (3 Days)</td>
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**Past Challenge CDs & TOM DVD**

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<tr>
<td><strong>COO</strong> Long Term Challenges, 1999-99</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COP</strong> Spontaneous Challenges, 1995-99</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COP</strong> Three Hour Challenges, 1995-99</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COP</strong> Long Term Challenges, 2002-03</td>
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<td><strong>COP</strong> Spontaneous Challenges, 2002-03 (1 Disc)</td>
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<td><strong>COP</strong> Three Hour Challenges, 2002-03 (1 Disc)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COP</strong> TOM Introductory DVD (30mins)</td>
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**Grand Total:** $155.00

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### Workshop Registration & Resource Order Form

Name: [Name]
School: [School]
Address: [Address]
Phone: [Phone]

Please retain a copy of this form to serve as your tax invoice/reciept.
What is TOM?

Tournament of Minds (TOM) is a problem-solving program for teams of students from both Primary and Secondary years. Students are required to solve demanding, open-ended challenges from one of the following disciplines:
- Applied Technology (Animation)
- Language Literature
- Maths Engineering
- Social Sciences

TOM is an opportunity for students with a passion for learning and problem-solving, to demonstrate their skills and talents in an exciting, vibrant and public way.

The Challenges

Multi-aged teams of seven are required to work together on a Long Term Challenge for six weeks without assistance from teachers, parents or peers. They are encouraged to explore possibilities and experiment with ideas as they endeavour to produce their best possible solution.

They develop a creative and original way to communicate this solution to others, working within predefined parameters such as limited materials, complex challenge criteria and the deadline of Tournament Day.

Students present the product of their ideas – their challenge solution – to a panel of judges and an audience on Tournament Day. They have ten minutes in which to present and must do so within a 3 x 3 metre performance area.

The teams must also participate in an unseen Spontaneous Challenge on Tournament Day. This challenge requires rapid interchange of ideas, the ability to think creatively and well developed group cooperation skills. This component takes approximately five minutes.

The Teams

Teams of seven students from school entry to Year 10 are invited to participate within two divisions:

Teams in the Primary Division must be a mix of students from at least two year levels with a maximum of four students from any one year.

Teams in the Secondary Division must be a mix of students from at least two year levels (up to and including Year 10) with a minimum of two students from Year 7, and a maximum of four students from any one year.

The Tournaments

The Regional Tournaments will be held on the weekend of 23-24 August 2008 at three metropolitan and four country venues. See over for specific days and venues. Teams are advised just prior to the weekend of their presentation times for their Long Term and Spontaneous Challenges.

The winning teams from all Victorian regions, in each division of each Challenge will be invited to participate in the State Final, to be held on Sunday 14 September 2008 at La Trobe University, Bendigo.

The 8 winning teams from the State Final - four Primary and four Secondary - will be invited to participate in the Australian Pacific Final.

This year they will be held in Victoria at La Trobe University on Saturday 23 October 2008. Teams will compete against the other winning teams from all Australian states and territories, and teams from Singapore, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

Our Aim

Tournament of Minds aims to enhance the potential of our youth by developing diverse skills, enterprise, time management and the discipline to work collaboratively within a competitive environment.

Tournament of Minds’ objectives are:
- to provide simulations of real, open-ended challenges;
- to develop creative problem-solving approaches and techniques;
- to foster cooperative learning and team work;
- to promote knowledge and appreciation of self and others;
- to encourage experimentation and risk-taking;
- to expand and reward creative and divergent thinking;
- to stimulate a spirit of inquiry and love of learning;
- to develop enterprise; and
- to celebrate excellence.

Real World Benefits

Tournament of Minds looks beyond academic achievement and understands that the pursuit of excellence knows no boundaries.

Accept the Challenge!

Every school within Australia and selected schools internationally are invited to participate. Thousands of parents, educators and interested public flock annually to watch and enjoy the exhilarating spectacle of the presentations and the ingenious solutions created by motivated students who have accepted the Tournament Challenge.