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6 December 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Yr 12 & 13 Biology Olympiad

The British Biology Olympiad will run again in February 2019 forming the first part of the National Biology Olympiad competition for the best young Biologists in the country. The questions posed often stimulate much debate on, and enthusiasm for Biology. Tackling the paper also provides a good opportunity to develop some of the skills required for study at university and beyond. We would strongly encourage our Year 13 biologists to take part as this will assist them in preparing for their A level exams as they provide excellent practice of the multiple choice style questions and we have also had great success in previous years. After the success of last year we are again offering our Year 12 biologists the opportunity to enter the competition. The questions will test the whole A level course including topics they will not have studied yet and is deliberately demanding, but any award at this stage of their studies would enhance their UCAS application and prove extremely helpful when applying for competitive courses. A willingness to have a go demonstrates a continued commitment to their studies and a desire to stretch and challenge themselves beyond the confines of their current study.

Further information outlining the syllabus can be found on the school website. Relevant information about the syllabus, including some past papers with answers can be found in the Biology curriculum area within the files tab for Year 12. We also have some files of previous papers and I would highly recommend looking at both of these resources before tackling the real papers.

The papers will be taken online during school time between 1 - 8 February 2019. If you wish your son to take part we ask that you make a contribution of £5 towards the entry fees. No student will be barred from the competition on account of non-payment due to circumstances. Please make your payment by **Monday 7 January**.

PAYMENT:

Online: Via www.scopay.com

If you need a link code please email mxl@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs Shirley Madzarevic
Head of Biology