FIELD TRIP

As stated in the IB hand book, most of the ecology work in year 13 is covered on a residential field course in Pembroke, Wales. The cost of this for this year's Yr13 is approximately £350. If you are on income support you can contact our finance office to obtain help with paying this from Herts LEA. If your son/daughter does not intend to attend this then they will have to copy up all the notes from someone else which is obviously not as rewarding an experience as doing it themselves. If this is the case please let us know by Easter of this school year.

E mail

To avoid excessive use of paper I will send the students the syllabus electronically. If you need to contact me at any time my email address is

Mich.jones@beaumont.herts.sch.uk

If, as a parent, you are willing to let me have an email address which you use regularly, then I can contact you quickly should there ever be a problem.

REPLY SLIP

Please would one parent/guardian and the student sign and return the reply slip to confirm that you have read this information leaflet.

Thanks

Mr M.Jones
Head of Biology

Welcome to

IB Biology at Beaumont

Parents and students should read this information leaflet carefully. & keep it for future reference

Parents please complete the reply slip to say that you have read this booklet. Thanks.

APPROACH

Students at IB level are here because they have chosen to be. We therefore expect them to be self motivated and take responsibility for their own learning. If there is something they are unsure about they ***must take the initiative to ask***. All 6 subjects in their IB are equally important whether they are standard or higher. They all count towards the final grade and failing any one of them results in not achieving the Diploma. The difference between standard and higher is the quantity of content not the level of difficulty. When Biology homework is set it must be handed in by the deadline or it may not be marked and the student will not receive the feedback and experience they would have gained.

Everything we do needs to be ***memorised*** thoroughly for the exams. It is very difficult to do this all at the end, so each week students should memorise that week's work & match it against the scheme of work. This will make final revision easier but also help with understanding as each lesson's work will often build on the previous lesson.

Although memorising the work is essential, a major part of the exam will involve discussing & explaining the information. Other questions include the discussion of data presented in different forms. It is therefore essential that students play an active part in the course and do not simply passively absorb.

WRITTEN NOTES

Students are totally responsible for their own written notes and these should form the core of their records. When they revise they should revise from their notes. ***On no account should they try to revise from text books or revision guides.*** Revision guides only give a summary of the work

TEXT BOOKS

We have provided the main and comprehensive text book however you may also wish to buy the IB Biology Study Guide by Andrew Allot Oxford University Press ISBN 9780199151431. There are also very good work booklets available through www.OSC-IB.com. If you do buy further books please be aware that the course changed in September 2007 (2009 exam) so IB books before that date will not apply.

PRACTICAL

Students have to complete a certain number of hours of practical work over the two years. This must be of a range of styles and include experiments they have designed themselves without assistance. As evidence of this all practical work must be written up, including the time taken to complete each practical and a record of any IT involved, and kept in a file that may be requested by the IB board. This work should be word processed and graphs produced on excel wherever possible.

Some of this practical work will be assessed and will contribute to the final grade therefore it is essential that this work is handed in when requested. Work handed in late cannot be assessed. The students will be told in advance which pieces of work will be assessed and will be given the marking criteria.

GROUP 4 PROJECT

In the summer term of this year all the IB students have to complete a combined Biology/Chemistry/Physics group project. Their ability to work as a group in this project is assessed and forms part of their final grade