



Department of Curriculum Management

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LETTER CIRCULAR

Information: X

Date: 6th October 2014

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To: All Heads of Secondary Schools (State and Non-State) and Sections

From: Desiree Scicluna Bugeja – Assistant Director

Subject: Malta Junior Science Olympiad

The Department of Curriculum Management in collaboration with the European Commission Representation in Malta is organising the first edition of the Malta Junior Science Olympiad. The event targets gifted and talented Form 5 science students.

The Malta Junior Science Olympiad will be held on Saturday 22nd November, 2014 at St Ignatius College Boys' Secondary School, Handaq. An activity programme is attached to this circular. Transport to and from Handaq needs to be organised by participating schools. Each participating school can register ONE team of three students. The selection of the students is at the discretion of the school. However it is recommended that the team includes at least one student with sound background from each science subject (i.e. Biology, Chemistry, Physics).

Each student is requested to bring a lab-coat and lab safety glasses/goggles, together with pens/pencils, a 30cm ruler and a scientific calculator. The students will work on a set of three scientific investigative tasks related to the SEC Biology, Chemistry and Physics content. The selected theme for this year's event is *Waste Management*. The following table indicates the subject topics relevant to the investigations.

Biology	Respiration, Soil as an ecosystem, Management of resources
Chemistry	Organic Chemistry (alkanes, natural gas, crude oil), Sulphur and its compounds, Qualitative analysis, Redox reactions
Physics	Balancing forces, Electricity in the home, Staying cool

Each student in the first 3 winning teams will be awarded an eBook Reader sponsored by the European Commission. The school of the winning team will receive the Science Olympiad trophy. A certificate of participation will be presented to all participants. The winning teams will be announced during the Awards Ceremony that will be held at Aula Magna, Old University Building, Valletta, on Tuesday 2nd December at 6.00pm.

Interested teachers are kindly requested to compile the application form attached and send it by email to joseph.cutajar.2@ilearn.edu.mt by Friday 31st October 2014.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Gaetano Bugeja
Director, Curriculum Management