

DEAR PARENTS

Last year Pullenvale entered the Hermitage Science Competition. It was our first year entering this competition. We spent 10 weeks completing and preparing for this competition and realised that in 2017 we would need more time. This Year we will start in term 1, but to complete this competition we will need parent help. Each child that enters will need significant parent help to complete the tasks and experiments.

What is the Hermitage Competition?

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), Hermitage Research Facility (HRF) Schools Plant Science Competition is an annual competition open to all primary and secondary school students from years P-12. The aim of the competition is to stimulate an interest in science and agriculture in young people and to promote science as a rewarding and exciting career choice.

In this year's competition we would like students to get their hands dirty with some interesting experiments and activities and learn all about the importance of soil along the way!

This year topic is called "Dirt on Soils"

All year levels are asked to complete the mandatory tasks as set out in these instructions. Students are required to carry out research on the topic and present results from the activities and experiments in a scientific report. Students are also required to keep one (1) science journal to record notes, raw data, thoughts, diagrams, drawings, etc for each of the experiments/activities completed.

Please note, the completion of mandatory plus optional tasks and any other work "over and beyond" what is expected will increase your chances of securing some great prizes!

1. Pre-designed soils experiment (submit a scientific report)
2. Design your own soils experiment/s (submit a scientific poster)
3. Global soils study (submit a video/PowerPoint show/poster/YouTube, etc) – years 7-12 (optional years P-6)
4. A Day in the Life of Soils (interactive, role-play card game) or Create a soils mind map/web/diorama

The competition will be open to year 4, 5 and 6 students. However, we can only take the first 30 students. If you think this science competition would suit your child and you have the time to help them complete the set tasks please fill in the following form and send in with payment that will cover the equipment required for the experiment.

If your child is accepted they will receive the full instructions via email. Science club will start in week 6, Term 1, and run every Tuesday at 2nd break until the end of Term 2. Cost will be \$20 and this will cover the cost for the equipment required for the experiments. Please complete the following form and hand in to the office.

Kind Regards
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