

Dear Principal,

The Cowbell National Secondary Schools Mathematics Competition is an event sponsored by Promasidor Nigeria Limited, makers of Cowbell Milk and approved by the Federal Ministry of Education.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude for the total support and encouragement given to this competition during the previous editions and to solicit your continued support in our effort to help our students develop interest in mathematics, science and vocational subjects in line with the National Curriculum, so that we can together move education forward in Nigeria.

There are prizes for candidates and teacher both in the state and national levels. Please see next page.

Apart from cash prizes to be won by students, the best three schools in each category will receive mathematics textbooks and high class metal sign posts bearing their names.

In addition, the schools producing the first prize winner in each category at the national level will receive mathematics textbooks and high class metal sign posts bearing their names.

The best four students in the Senior Category will be sponsored to the Pan African Mathematics Olympiad.

INTRODUCTION

Research conducted by our team has shown that apparent loss of interest of our students in these areas of study is due mainly to:

1. High cost of books, mathematical and scientific instruments needed to effectively learn and understand these subjects;
2. Lack of proper motivation and encouragement of students to take interest in these subjects;
3. Poorly equipped science laboratories and vocational subjects workshop in post primary schools.

These research findings are quite similar to results obtained by other groups on this very important aspect of our national life. The immediate and long term effects of this trend, if allowed to degenerate further, will be;

- A. A further drop in the poor standard of education
- B. A drastic drop in the number of students' enrolment in mathematics, science and vocational based courses in our tertiary institutions

The present ratio of Science to Art based courses enrolment of about 30:70 in our tertiary institutions means a bleak future for a country aiming to advance technologically.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPETITION

1. To arouse and re-awaken the interest of students in the study of the basic core subjects such as mathematics, practical oriented science and vocational subjects in line with the national policy on Education through well-guided seminars, workshops, counselling and career talk.
2. To improve the performance of our students in these areas of study by encouraging them through interesting competitive subject and activities among various schools and students.
3. Provide financial assistance to schools and students.
4. Assist schools to equip classrooms and Libraries.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MATHEMATICS PROJECT

1. To develop students' interest in Mathematics
2. To improve the performance of students in Mathematics
3. To give financial assistance to students

HOW TO ENTER

1. The mathematics competition is open to students 10 - 18 years of age attending full time secondary education in public and private schools in Nigeria
2. Entry into this competition is FREE
3. Each school is required to present their BEST 4 (FOUR) students in mathematics (2 from JSS3 and 2 from SS2) irrespective of sex, religion or state of origin to enhance their chances of qualifying for the next stage of the competition.
4. Each School head should collect 4 (FOUR) registration forms which must be correctly filled, stamped and signed by the school principal and presented by

the students to the officials at the examination centre on the examination day. School Principals may also download registration forms online at www.promasidor-ng.com, state Ministry of Education and Promasidor Nigeria Limited offices nationwide.

5. The organizers would like this competition announced daily at the assembly and the posters conspicuously displayed at notice boards, assembly halls and school entrances.

CATEGORIES

CATEGORY A: JUNIOR CATEGORY

This category is made up of students in JSS 3 of the Junior Secondary School.

CATEGORY B: SENIOR CATEGORY

This category is made up of students in the SS2 of the Senior Secondary School

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. First stage examination will hold in all states of the federation including the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja on Saturday March 14, 2009 at 10:00am. However, accreditation of all candidates begins at 8:00am.
2. Candidates must come to their designated examination centres with their registration forms.
3. Late comers will not be allowed to write the examination.
4. Candidates are to come along with only pencil, biro, eraser, ruler and statistical table. NO CALCULATOR WILL BE ALLOWED.
5. Any act of misconduct will lead to disqualification of the candidate.
6. All candidates MUST be in their correct school uniform
7. Please detach Examination Centres list from the registration form and keep for future reference.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

NATIONAL AWARDS

STUDENT

SCHOOL

CATEGORY 'A'

1st Prize - N130,000.00 + Trophy + Medal - Classroom tables and chairs + Mathematics Textbooks + High Class Metal Sign Post + Plaque

2nd Prize - N100,000.00 + Plaque + Medal - Mathematics Textbooks + High Class Metal Sign Post + Plaque

3rd Prize - N75,000.00 + Plaque + Medal - Mathematics Textbooks + High Class Metal Sign Post + Plaque

CATEGORY 'B'**STUDENT****SCHOOL**

1st Prize - N130,000.00+ Laptop + Trophy + Medal - Classroom tables and chairs + Mathematics Textbooks + High Class Metal Sign Post + Plaque

2nd Prize - N100,000.00 +Laptop+ Plaque + Medal - Mathematics Textbooks + High Class Metal Sign Post + Plaque

3rd Prize - N100,000.00 + Plaque + Medal - Mathematics Textbooks + High Class Metal Sign Post + Plaque

STATE AWARDS

CATEGORIES Junior & Senior Categories (1st Prize - N20,000) (2nd Prize- N15,000) (3rd Prize - N10,000)

BENSON OWEKA MEMORIAL PRIZE

Higher Education Exercise Books and Pens for all the Students of the Winning School. This prize goes to the school with the most consistent outstanding performance average over a three-year period. For this year, we are looking at the period 2006 - 2008.

OTHER AWARDS

Cash awards for Maths Teachers of winning candidates both at the State and National Levels.

CONSOLATION PRIZES

- N15,000.00 each for 14 candidates and lots of Cowbell Products.
- Trophies, Laptops, Plaques, Medals, Certificates, Achievement Badges, T-Shirts, Face-Caps, Stationery Kits etc.

NB. Candidates are advised to check their results online at www.promasidor-ng.com as from April 30, 2009. Results can also be obtained from respective State Ministries of Education and Promasidor Nigeria Ltd. offices nationwide.

Only qualified candidates will be contacted for the second stage of the examination.