NEWNHAM COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE CB3 9DF

The Weston-Smith Physical Sciences Prize 2017-18

The Weston-Smith Physical Science Prize is open to all **girls currently in Year 12** (Lower Sixth) at a UK school. The prize may be of particular interest to those studying Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics or Geography but we welcome entries from interested students studying any combination of subjects.

Entrants are invited to submit a response to any **one** of the questions overleaf. Submissions should comply with the following:

- 4-6 A4 sides maximum including all figures, diagrams, tables and bibliography
- 12 point font minimum
- 2 cm margins minimum
- 2500 words max.

All sources must be appropriately acknowledged and cited, and a bibliography, including websites consulted, should be included. Up to **five** entries may be submitted per school.

There are many angles from which to approach each topic. Good submissions will present a clear argument, be well illustrated where appropriate, and give specific examples or cases where possible.

Each of the Newnham Essay Prizes has a first prize of £400, a second prize of £200, and third prize of £100. This prize has kindly been sponsored by a Newnham alumna, scientist and author, Meg Weston-Smith.

Entrants should upload their submissions to the webform, found here: http://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduates/newnham-essay-prizes/

The **cover sheet** should also be uploaded to this webform. Please ensure that a school/college representative has completed the appropriate section. Entries will not be valid without this information

The deadline for receipt is **12pm on Friday 9th March 2018**. For any queries not answered here, please contact Sophie Parry (Schools Liaison & Outreach Officer) by email at slo@newn.cam.ac.uk or by telephone on 01223 330471.

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The Newnham Weston-Smith Physical Sciences Prize 2017-18: Questions

1. How can we reconstruct the past climate of the Earth?

2. *'All science is either physics or stamp-collecting.'* - attributed to Ernest Lord Rutherford. Discuss.

3. The chemistry of the batteries and supercapacitors of the future.