**Advanced Placement Biology Students:**

Congratulations, you have chosen to enroll in a very fast paced, challenging, and in depth study of Biology. This class is taught as a college level course so that students will be prepared for the AP Exam in Biology at the end of the year. Students can earn up to 8 college credits when scoring a 5 on the AP Biology exam. You should check the colleges of your choice to see if they accept the AP credits.

I will assume that each student has some general knowledge of biology and chemistry. Some of the course will be a review of familiar concepts while other parts will be new to you. We will cover many of the same ideas taught in Biology only faster and in much more detail. Since we have so much to cover in a limited amount of time, it is necessary for you to prepare over the summer. I expect students to come to class in the fall with a good understanding of biochemistry and cells. In order to prepare for the class, I suggest the following:

* Email me at [jkohout@hcpss.org](mailto:jkohout@hcpss.org). Tell me a little about yourself and why you are interested in taking AP Biology.
* Using your textbook, read Chapters 3-5. Go over the self-quizzes at the end of the chapters to check your own understanding. Make a list of questions of things that you do not understand. Review cell parts and the functions in Chapter 6-8. Read through the Table of Contents and get to know the textbook. Skim through chapters and get an idea of what we will be learning.
* Check out my website for new updates on the class. I will be posting a course syllabus and other useful information throughout the summer. <http://kohoutbio.weebly.com>
* Follow me on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MrsKohout> for news & updates and #ScienceJokeFriday.
* Sign up for Remind101 to receive class news and reminders: Visit <https://www.remind101.com/join/apbiorhs> to sign up.

**When we begin in the fall, we will quickly go through chapters 3-5 in the first week and have our first graded quiz on September 2nd.** We will cover chapter 6 in two classes and then chapters 7-8 in about one week. If you do not prepare over the summer, you will start off with quite a bit of work in the first week. Although this will be a challenging class, I have expectations that it will be fun and interesting too.

**Something to Keep in Mind:** The AP Biology test covers about 50 chapters worth of material (that is 2 full college lab classes worth of material.) This will be an intense class that will require assignments over Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring Breaks. You will have the option to do the assignments before break at your own pace. Be aware that this class does require you to cover some chapters on your own and you are encouraged to attend afterschool help sessions.

Thanks and have a great summer!

Mrs. Kohout ☺