

## DAILY SUPPLIES

Students should come prepared to learn every day we meet. No need to ask, "Will we be doing anything today?" The answer will almost always be a loud and enthusiastic, "Yes!" ☺

It can be difficult to stay organized, so here is a list to help you decide what goes in your backpack (and what you can leave out):

### Must have:

- Notes Packet
- Homework
- Pencils
- Reading Book
- Planner
- Chromebook (charged)

### May have:

- Colored pencils
- Glue stick
- Scissors

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ALGEBRA & SCIENCE

## HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Homework is assigned as needed to give students a chance to practice new concepts we are learning about in class. It is checked for completion at the beginning of the next class meeting and then the answers are discussed as a class. Students are responsible for asking for clarification on any concepts they do not understand during this time or during my tutoring times after school.

If a student misses a class meeting, their homework will be collected by another student from their class and delivered either to a sibling or to the office for parent pickup. However, it is up to the student to show the teacher their homework from their absence.

## GRADING

Math is a skill that should be practiced frequently (much like any other language). Grades are taken to reflect student practice and performance in the classroom learning environment. A non-exhaustive list of graded assignments for this class include:

- Homework
- Quizzes
- Tests
- Performance Events/Projects

Students are allowed to earn "extra credit" by redoing missed questions on quizzes and tests.

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Like math, science grades are taken to reflect student practice and performance in the classroom learning environment. A non-exhaustive list of graded assignments for this class include:

- Homework
- Quizzes
- Tests
- Performance Events/Projects

\*\*Please note: There will be a Diocesan-wide science fair second semester. While most of the planning will take place during the school day, some work will need to take place at home.

## GRADING SCALE

- |          |    |         |    |
|----------|----|---------|----|
| • 93-100 | A  | • 67-69 | D+ |
| • 90-92  | A- | • 63-66 | D  |
| • 87-89  | B+ | • 60-62 | D- |
| • 83-86  | B  | • 0-59  | F  |
| • 80-82  | B- |         |    |
| • 77-79  | C+ |         |    |
| • 73-76  | C  |         |    |
| • 70-72  | C- |         |    |

## MATH TUTORING

Math is a subject that can take more time for some students to learn.

Free math tutoring is offered weekly. The day for tutoring changes depending on the week, but is rarely held on Monday or Friday. Tutoring for the following week is posted on Fridays. Tutoring lasts from 3:10-4 pm, but students may leave earlier if necessary to accommodate schedules.

Tutoring is not meant to be after school care or a “hangout with friends” time. Likewise, this is tutoring for math **only**. Students that are not seeking math help will be asked to leave so as not to be a distraction to those that are asking for help with math.

## GOOGLE CLASSROOM

This class takes advantage of Google Classroom, which can be found on all student Chromebooks. Students are assigned to a Google Classroom for each of their classes with me – one for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and one for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science. Inside of this classroom, they can find some of their assignments, practice documents, and most importantly for math, videos of the math notes we take in class.

The videos of the math notes are provided for students that need to hear the way we did the notes in class another way or even for parents to see how the steps were explained in class (for those of us that may have learned it a different way ☺). The videos do expire after a month, but can be renewed if we are still within a unit where they are needed.

## SCIENCE CONCEPTS

During the course of this school year, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are focused on learning science about the world around them. These are things they can use their own five senses to observe in real time or things they can use tools to view evidence of in real time.

Topics for 8<sup>th</sup> grade science include:

- Atoms and the Periodic Table
- Chemistry
- Matter Properties
- Mixtures and Solutions
- Forces and Motion
- Magnets and Electricity
- Simple Machines
- Forms of Energy
- Thermal Energy
- Energy Resources
- Waves and Sound
- Light and Optics

## MATH CONCEPTS

In math, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are focused on continuing their growth from 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade while setting the foundation for algebra in high school. This learning will ease the transition from junior high to high school math.

Topics for 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra include:

- Equations and Inequalities
- Properties of Functions
- Linear Functions
- Applying Linear Relationships
- Systems
- Exponents and Polynomials
- Factoring Polynomials
- Quadratic Functions
- Solving Quadratic Equations
- Exponential Functions
- Data and Statistics

## A FINAL NOTE FROM MRS. SCHMITZ

I love watching students grow as learners, and I’m looking forward to making my 16<sup>th</sup> year of teaching the best year yet! Please do not hesitate to email me at [aschmitz@saint-george-parish.org](mailto:aschmitz@saint-george-parish.org) if there is something I can help with.

Sincerely -