Ms. Mettler’s 7th Grade Science Syllabus

JMMS

Room 528

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*This syllabus is yours to keep at home. Please sign and return the parent information sheet.*

**Course Overview**

Quarter 1: Weather

*Atmospheric properties, storms, weather prediction, global weather systems, human impact*

Quarter 2: Physics

*Newton’s laws, distance vs time graphs and equations, energy, simple machines and work*

Quarter 3: Cells and Human Body

*Unicellular organisms, parts of the cell, human body systems*

Quarter 4: Genetics

*Types of reproduction, classical genetics, Punnett squares, pedigrees, genetic diseases*

**Supply List**

All students will need the following:

* Multiple pencils - tape
* Composition notebook - glue stick
* Paper
* Folder

**Grading**

Students’ grades are divided into two categories: informal and formal assessments. *Informal assessments* consist of classwork and homework and count for 35% of the total grade. *Formal assessments* consist of quizzes and tests and counts for 65% of the total grade. Students will have four quizzes and one test each quarter.

**Homework Policy**

Homework will be assigned each Monday and will be due on Fridays. This means that your student will have science homework due every Friday. Homework will usually consist of a reading and questions which relate to what we have talked about in class. Homework is designed to reinforce concepts learned in the classroom. Not only does doing the homework directly affect the student’s grade, but it will also lead to higher test and quiz scores.

**Absences**

If a student is absent it is their responsibility to seek out missing work from the teacher. Work for each student for each day they are out will be stapled with their name and directions on the front. Students simply ask for the work they are missing and the packet of work will be ready for them. The due date for the make-up work will be written on the directions and work will not be accepted after that point.

**Extra Credit**

Two types of extra credit will be offered during each quarter. These are based on the two sections of grading stated above.

Classwork/informal extra credit: Extra credit will consist of a packet. Students must request this packet personally or find it on my website. The dates in which extra credit is posted/is due will be written up in my room two weeks prior to the end of the quarter. It will consist of a mini project which shows me that the student understands the material from the quarter. *Extra credit can never bring down a grade, it can only bring it up.*

Quiz/formal extra credit: During the last two weeks of the quarter a pop quiz will be given. This will be a short quiz with questions from the previous quizzes. This quiz score will replace the student’s lowest quiz score. If they score poorly on the pop quiz, the score will simply be thrown out. A reminder that the pop quiz is approaching will be written on the board in my room. *Extra credit can never bring down a grade, it can only bring it up.*

**Rules and Expectations**

I would never set an expectation in my room that I knew my students could not meet. My goal is to help them have a successful 7th grade year. In order to do this I am going to need every student to:

1. Participate in activities and discussions.
2. Stay quiet while others are speaking.
3. Come prepared for class every day.
4. Follow all directions the first time they are given.
5. Respect supplies and resources in the classroom.

**Weekly Newsletter**

Each week parents/guardians will receive a weekly newsletter. The newsletter will include homework reminders, dates of upcoming big assignments, and when the next quiz/test will be. It will also have the topics being discussed in class and questions parents/guardians can ask their student to keep them on their toes! Please feel free to respond to the email if you ever have any questions about the class.

**Extra Help**

Tutoring will be offered twice per week beginning the week of September 8th (third week of school). We will be moving very quickly this year through some challenging topics. Tutoring will be Tuesday morning from 7:45-8:45 and Thursday afternoon from 4:30-5:30. There will be a sign up sheet in my room. All students who want to stay for tutoring must sign up by the day before the tutoring session they want to attend. For example, if they want to attend on Tuesday, they must sign up on Monday.. I also need parental/guardian permission for students to stay. If you would like to grant permission for your child to stay for tutoring please sign the additional line provided on the student information sheet. This does not mean they have to stay every week; simply that they have permission to stay should they sign up one week.

I am always here to help! It is my top priority to make sure your student has a successful year. Please let me know if you have any concerns about your student’s progress in class.

**Parent/Student Information Sheet**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like me to know most about your child?

I have read and understand the syllabus.

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*(Parent/Guardian Signature)*

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*(Student Signature)*

I give my child permission to stay for tutoring on Tuesday mornings and/or Thursday afternoons beginning the week of September 8th, 2014. I understand that my child must sign up the day before tutoring in order to stay. I also understand that if my child attends the afternoon session I must pick my child up by 5:30. Failure to pick up on time will result in my child not being able to stay for tutoring.

(Signing below does not mean that the student has to stay every week. It simply means that should they sign up to stay that they may.)

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*(Parent/Guardian Signature)*