

Ms. Pugliese's 5th-8th Grade Science Policy and Procedure 2023 - 2024

Classroom Expectations

Students are to be prepared for class each day. This includes completed homework assignments, books, and supplies. If a student is absent, he or she is responsible for making up classwork and assignments promptly. Students are expected to be respectful of classmates and teachers. Students are to keep a well-maintained area in the classroom. Books and other material belonging to St. John's should also be maintained and returned in good condition.

Materials

Students will be using a variety of textbooks, workbooks, and instructional materials to help them achieve proficiency in science content. They will also have many opportunities to apply what they have learned in lessons through various lab investigations and activities, which will be fun and highly engaging.

Grading Policy

Grades will come from various assessments, including tests, homework assignments, projects, labs, exit slips, and quizzes. Students will be given advanced notice for exams. I reserve the right to grade any assignment without prior notification, therefore, students should always come to class with tasks completed as if they were to be graded. All late work will be penalized.

Grades will be calculated according to the following percentages:

Formative assessments: *daily class work/notebook checks, digital current events, journal entries, exit slips, participation-* 20%

Homework: *three-five times a week-* 20%

Quizzes and Summative Assessments: *Quiz, End of Unit Exams (Minimum 1 per quarter)* 40%

Labs and Experiments: 20% (Approximately 1 per week)

*Extra credit will be offered to students who ask, provided they have minimal missing homework and act appropriately during class.

Homework

Homework will be assigned regularly. Students are responsible for writing homework assignments down in their planners. Each missing homework will result in a 5-point deduction to their homework grade. Students who do not submit homework and other class assignments within one week will receive a zero for that grade. A student will be able to make up missed assignments without a penalty if an excused/medical note is provided by a parent or guardian upon the student's return to school. Students will **not** be allowed to turn in bulk work at the end of the term.

Laboratory Investigations

Every lab investigation will have a Pre-Lab worksheet assigned for homework or before the beginning of the lab investigation on Lab Day. This pre-lab worksheet will count as 20% of the student's lab grade. It will **not** be allowed to be submitted late as its purpose is to equip the students with insight, predictions, and safety precautions **prior** to the lab. A lab protocol grade will also be included as part of the student's overall grade. This is 10% of the student's Lab grade. Major infractions such as off task, destruction of school property, and disrespectful behavior towards lab partners and/or teacher will result in immediate removal from the lab activity and subsequently a zero for that lab grade.

Absences

It is the student's responsibility to make up any assignments or tests missed due to an absence. Missed exams must be made up within one week. If a student does not take **personal responsibility** to make up tests, quizzes, and exit slips within one week, he or she will receive a zero for that grade. Please make sure all missed work is addressed outside of class (preferably before class, during homeroom, or via Grade Book Wizard).

Remember, I'm here to make sure that your child has a successful year! If you have any questions or concerns about the requirements, policies, or how your student is doing in class, please contact me via Grade Book Wizard at any time. If a situation requires more than a quick email, you may leave me a message with the school office. In order to give you the time you need, all meetings must be scheduled in advance.

Thank you,
Ms. Pugliese