

Welcome to Science 7 with Mrs. Jimenez

Dear Class,

Welcome to 7th grade science! I am excited that you are here and that we will be sharing this year together. We have fabulous discoveries and exciting explorations ahead of us!

Please know that I am here to help you in whatever way that I can. The best times to see me are after school or at lunch. Please come and ask for help whenever you need it.

~Mrs. Jimenez

Course topics of study:

- Science Skills – The Scientific Method, Lab skills, and Designing a Controlled Experiment
- Life Science– Cell Biology, Genetics, Classification, Anatomy
- Earth Science– The Age of Earth, The History of Life on Earth
- Physical Science– Light and Sound

To ensure that the science classroom is a positive and productive classroom everyone (myself included) will act according to the 6 P's:

1. **Prompt** – Be in your seat following the instructions on the board when the bell rings.
2. **Prepared** - Have all your materials for class everyday: notebook, pencil, and highlighter.
3. **Polite** – Be respectful to yourself, your classmates and the teacher. Respect the shared belongings of our classroom.
4. **Positive Mental Attitude** – Believe in yourself and your abilities. Strive to improve and always do your best!
5. **Participate** – Raise your hand to speak, speak clearly, take notes, ask questions, do your work, and be an involved and active learner.
6. **Produce** – Always do your best work and turn in your assignments on time.

There are a variety of skills all successful students have. These “attending skills” are expected everyday in science class.

1. **Being in the Moment:** It is your responsibility to be in class, on time, with required supplies, completed assignments and your brain turned on ready to learn.
2. **Appropriate Body Language:** Your body language can speak much louder than your words. Make sure you are being respectful with your actions. Sit up; keep your knees and eyes pointed toward the teacher or your group. Eye rolling, gesturing, crossed arms and slouching communicate your disrespect to your classmates and me.
3. **Appropriate Eye Contact:** Give your attention to the speaker in the class or in your group.
4. **Appropriate Feedback:** Ask questions when you do not understand and encourage your classmates. If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all!
5. **Questions to Clarify or Validate:** Make sure you understand the requirements. Don't guess at what you are supposed to do.

Some specifics for Science Class:

- Enter our classroom quietly.
- Bring your Science Notebook and 2 pencils to class each day.
- Clean up after yourself – No one will be excused until the room is clean, supplies are accounted for and desks are where they belong. If your area is clean, help your classmates!
- Remain at your assigned seat or group during work time.
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get missing notes and assignments. Ask your classmates, check the absent notebook, and then ask me for help.
- Turn in your work on time!
- Mrs. Jimenez excuses you from science class, the bell does not.

What results from unacceptable behavior? If your behavior does not reflect the 6 P's and good attending skills . . .

- 1st warning = I ask you how your attending skills are. Answer honestly and respectfully.

*I will tell you which behavior I see and ask you how you are going to fix it.
Acknowledge your behavior and fix it.*

- 2nd warning = You and I conference.
- 3rd warning = You are sent to see Mr. White. I contact your parents.

*****Parents may be contacted at any time during this process.*****

Course grading policy:

1. Turn in all assignments on time! Assignments will be collected or checked near the beginning of each class period.
2. Grade Printout (GPO's) will be handed out biweekly on Wednesdays starting 8-28-13.
3. Any missing assignments (late work) listed on the grade printout must be turned in by the following Monday.
4. Take advantage of chances to correct assignments, quizzes, and tests. Please see me when you want to do this.
5. Your grade in this class will be equal to your total number of points earned out of the total number of points possible for the grading period.

100 – 90	A
89 – 80	B
79 – 70	C
69 – 60	D
59 – 0	F

Classroom Extras:

- Every day when you come to class, open your science notebook and copy the assignment for the day.
- Read the Promethean Board for “bellringer” instructions and work quietly until I am done taking attendance and class begins.