



Physical Science

8th Grade

Mr. St. Edwards



Welcome to the 2017-2018 SMS school year! I am very excited to meet and work with our new students. In physical science, we will be learning about different non-living processes. The SOL objectives are a mixture of chemistry and physics concepts. Students will also review science topics from 6th and 7th grade to prepare for their cumulative SOL.

Course Objectives: P.S. 1 – P.S. 11

First Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Nature of Matter (8.2)
- Atomic Theory (8.3)
- The Periodic Table (8.4)

Second Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Changes in Matter (8.5)
- Forms of Energy (8.6)
- Temperature and Heat (8.7)
- Motion and Newton's Laws (8.10)

Third Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Work and Machines (8.10)
- Electricity and Magnetism (8.11)
- Sound and Light Waves (8.8, 8.9)

Fourth Nine Weeks

- Scientific Investigation (8.1)
- Cumulative 6-8th Grade Science SOL Review.

Required Supplies

- 1 Subject Notebook (80+ pages)
- Pencils (mechanical preferred)
- Mini stapler or glue stick

Grading Scale

- A ----- 93-100
- B ----- 85-92
- C ----- 77-84
- D ----- 70-76
- F ----- 69 and below

Classroom Assessments and Weights

- Homework (10%) – Given nightly as studying or written vocabulary work.
- Classwork (35%) – labs, simulations, reading assignments, and practice in class.
- Quizzes (25%) – At least once per week.
- Tests and Benchmarks (30%) – 2 benchmarks each nine weeks, 1 notebook grade.

Absence and Make-up work policy: All work should be completed within 5 days of your return to school. You must pick up your own work from the make-up folders and ask questions if you do not understand. Missing work that is never turned in will eventually result in a zero. All quizzes and tests must be taken in the classroom.

Homework policy: Homework is provided Monday through Friday (not always written). Late work will result in a zero. A student may choose to replace the zero by completing the original and additional assignment.

Re-take policy: Students may be allowed to re-take failing quizzes and classwork grades (below a 70). The original paper must be signed by a parent and given back to the teacher before turning in the replacement quiz or classwork. Replacement scores must achieve a 77/C or higher to replace the grade. If a re-take does not meet this requirement, the original score will be final. All re-take quizzes must be taken in the classroom.

Remind: Students and parents, please join the Remind group for my class. I will give regular updates for assignments and due dates for the class. I will also give any eighth-grade specific information that I can as well.

Text **@7e4g773** to the
phone number **81010**
to join the class.



Extra Help: Parents and students may request extra help outside the classroom as needed. I am available most days after school to give students the best one-on-one help. The next best option is for students to come for help during my planning period (1st period). The last option, which I cannot offer any one-on-one help, is for students to come to me during one of their electives.

Classroom Expectations and Procedures

- **Before class:** Take care of all bathroom, water, and hallway needs, and be seated in class before the tardy bell. Use the four minutes between classes wisely, so we can begin without interruptions.
- **Beginning class:** When class starts, take out your required supplies, pick up any make-up work, and start your warm-up on the board. This is a quiet time to take attendance and work with students who are missing work. Once you have everything complete, this is the time to spend your science bucks before I start teaching.
- **During class:**
 - Be respectful to the learning environment, class materials, and all students.
 - Raise your hand to ask questions or share things with the class.
 - Independent work is meant to be done on your own.
 - Use inside voices for group assignments and stay on topic.
 - Be extra attentive when handling glassware and materials in labs.
 - Be extra attentive when handling laptops or iPads in the room.
- **Ending class:** Make sure the class supplies are packed away, and you are seated and ready to go before I dismiss you.

Rewards: Students may earn science bucks by winning games, excellence with their work, and displaying positive behaviors I want to see. In return, the science bucks may be spent on supplies and privileges in the classroom.

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Verification Sheet

By signing below, I am verifying that I have read and reviewed the syllabus and course outline for the 2017-2018 school year. I will abide by all classroom and school rules and come prepared daily with all required materials.

Students will keep their syllabus in their notebooks for future reference.

Student Name (please print) _____

Guardian 1 Name (please print) _____ Relation: _____

Guardian 1 Phone _____ (Home)

_____ (Cell)

_____ (Work)

Guardian 1 e-mail address _____

Guardian 2 Name (please print) _____ Relation: _____

Guardian 2 Phone _____ (Home)

_____ (Cell)

_____ (Work)

Guardian 2 e-mail address _____

Do you have any additional concerns or comments? _____

_____.

Please return this form to Mr. St. Edwards by Friday, September 8th, 2017.