

Welcome to 8th Grade Science!

Ms. Robeznieks

2014-2015

I am very happy to have you in my classroom and am looking forward to a great year! In eighth grade Science, you will be studying the fundamental concepts in the following topics:

- Review of Science Lab Skills and Inquiry
- Earth's History and Resources
- Chemical Interactions
- Earth's Waters
- Cells and Microbiology

To be a successful Science Scholar you are expected to:

- Be on time. This means that you are in your seat working on the Do First (warm up activity) when the bell rings.
- Be prepared for class. This means that you will have your completed homework, interactive notebook, pens, glue stick, coloring utensils, and all other school supplies with you.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Respect yourself and others' opinions and property.
- Use positive and supportive language with adults and peers.
- Keep only your necessary materials for a given lesson out and accessible (This includes electronics, work for other classes, or other outside materials).
- Refrain from food, gum and drinks in class.

Consequences
1. Verbal warning- teacher will speak to you and remind you that you have violated one of the classroom rules
2. Student conference, Student Reflection and/or temporary relocation in room, or another room
3. REFOCUS/Conference with parent
4. Referral to administrator

Rewards
Verbal Praise
Positive phone call or notes to guardians
Raffle/Incentives

Participation: You are expected to actively participate in class or group activities. Active participation helps you or the group to complete the assigned tasks successfully.

Supplies:

- A 5-subject notebook for SCIENCE CLASS **ONLY**, Mead 5 Star brand highly preferred
- Writing utensils (pens or pencils)
- Scissors
- Glue, preferably a glue stick, or tape
- Colored pencils and markers
- Highlighter
- Ruler
- Loose-leaf paper

Student Work: All work must be turned in on time to avoid penalty. Classwork is done in class and is due at the end of class. Each graded *class* assignment will be marked indicating it is graded. If there is no mark, then the grade is a **ZERO and cannot be made up for a late grade**. Late work (*homework*) will be accepted, but full credit will not be given. It is the **responsibility** of the **student** to turn in all late assignments.

I only grade completed assignments, so a grade will **not** be given for **partial** assignments. Students are expected to have all classwork, homework, and projects completed and turned in on time.

Make-Up Work: If you are absent from school, assignments are due the day you return to school. Students are expected to ask for make-up assignments upon their return to school from absences, suspensions and/or religious holidays. Time will be given to complete the tasks. All work that is not submitted will result in a zero. Parents are encouraged to pick up make-up work from the main office for extended absences. Please notify the teacher in advance so the work will be ready for pick-up.

Assessments: Assessments will be given throughout the unit of study to assess the students' mastery of concepts and skills. Scholars will participate in data conferences to discuss their progress on assignments. If you are absent on the day of an assessment, you are expected to make up the assessment once you return to school. Any assessment not made up will result in a zero.

Grading Scale:

Test, projects, reports, notebook, warm-up, lab activities	65%
Homework, class participation, quizzes	35%

Updates of grades will be sent home. Those reports will need to be signed by parents and returned to me in a timely manner. These progress reports will be glued into the Interactive Notebook so please check progress frequently.

Interactive Notebook Guidelines: Students will keep an Interactive Notebook (IN) for Science. The IN is a spiral bound notebook where students will write the date, objective and notes for each day. Handouts and returned assignments such as homework will be attached to that day's page in the IN. There will be IN checks throughout the quarter to make sure that the IN is properly organized. Below are a few guidelines to assist you with earning the grade you expect and deserve:

- Your IN must be a 5 subject spiral notebook, Mead FIVE STAR brand highly preferred
- Your IN must be in class daily! We will use it every day!
- All pages must have the date and objectives for each day
- Pages should never be torn from the IN! Use separate notebook paper instead of tearing pages
- All completed and graded work must be attached to the IN
- All work must be neat and legible

Communication: Please stay in regular contact with the teacher and school. Feel free to email me with questions, to share information, or to just touch base. Also check Power School regularly to monitor grades.

I may be reached via email at laran.robeznieks@cms.k12.nc.us or at [\(219\) 413-2659](tel:2194132659) before 7pm. I will be updating the class website regularly with information on classroom lessons, homework assignments, important dates and deadlines, and other outside resources. Please check in with your child to make sure that they have completed homework assignments and have prepared for quizzes and exams. RobeznieksScience.weebly.com

Updates and other pertinent information will be shared through text via the Remind program. To receive this information via cell phone text the code **@msrobez** to **(704) 323-7181**.

To provide me with information to best contact guardians, **please fill out the short questionnaire attached to this letter and return it to school. Additionally, sign the Student Safety Contract and Teacher/Student/Parent Contract.**

Parent/Guardian Questionnaire

Child's Name: _____

Guardian's Name: _____

Relation to Child: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

When is the best time to contact you? What is the best number to use?

Is there anything I should know about your child (medical conditions, trouble seeing the board, bladder problems, personality, etc.?)

Would you be interested in visiting/helping out in our classroom?

Other comments: