

# Junior High Survival Packet

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Junior High. In order for the year to run smoothly, we would like for you and your child to read the Junior High Teacher Expectations Packet thoroughly. It contains a great deal of information regarding the curricula and criteria for grading as well as general Junior High policies. If you have a question or concern, please call or send a note in an envelope to the subject teacher.

Please sign below stating that you have read the entire packet. The signature page ONLY should be returned to your child's homeroom teacher no later than Friday, September 9. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Junior High Faculty

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the Junior High Teacher Expectation Packet and understand the information presented.

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	8th Physical Science & Chemistry
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Mr. Brian Knoop
<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	Science
<b>MEETING TIMES</b>	Daily

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will explore many areas of Physical & Chemical Science including the structure of matter, motion, forces, energy, sound, light, waves, electricity and magnetism. In addition to exploring the above mentioned content areas the students will also work in the following areas; problem solving, observation, analytical skills, understanding of the metric system, the scientific method, reading comprehension and an understanding of graphs and data.

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

- Notebook
- Textbook
- Workbook
- Flash Drive

### **GRADES & SCORING**

**All Assignments Are Of Equal Value In Grading**

### **HOMEWORK, LAB REPORTS, COMP QUESTIONS, CHAPTER TEST, MI ACTIVITIES,**

**HOMEWORK:** This category will consist of written work, research and READING.

**LAB REPORTS:** This category will require the student to type up a report at the conclusion of certain labs. The student will be given a specific format for the report.

**COMP QUESTIONS:** The student will be required to read each chapter over a certain number of days. Upon completion of reading the chapter the student will then be given a set of approximately 25 questions and will then select any 12 of those 25 questions to answer. The student must answer at least 12 questions. These questions are typically multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching and true/false.

**CHAPTER TEST:** The student will take a chapter test at the conclusion of each chapter. The chapter test will typically be a short answer / essay type test with approximately 8-15 questions.

**MI ACTIVITIES:** At times the student will create a rubric and select a method based on Howard Gardner's areas of Multiple Intelligence's, utilizing an activity from one of those areas to convey their understanding of the content.

### **PAPERS & PROJECTS**

The student will be required to do some research on certain topic areas, utilizing the laptop computers in the science lab and a home computer if available.

### **ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS POLICY**

There are no bells throughout most of the day to signal the end/beginning of classes. However, you are traveling a short distance between most of your classes and you should be on time for class. We begin each class with a prayer, and if the door is closed and we are praying you are late.

## **AREAS OF STUDY**

1. Atoms, Elements and The Periodic Table
2. States of Matter
3. Properties and Changes of Matter
4. Motion and Momentum
5. Force and Newtons Laws
6. Energy
7. Work and Simple Machines
8. Thermal Energy
9. Sound
10. Waves
11. Electromagnetic Waves & Light
12. Electricity & Magnetism

## **ENGLISH 8<sup>th</sup> (Mrs. Braniff)**

Goal: To be able to use the thought process to write effectively while using the proper rules of grammar.

Objective: To learn the proper rules of grammar and different literary techniques used in writing.

Major assignments and expectations:

Children's book

Speeches

Research paper

Portfolio

Spelling definition notebook

All written work is considered a test grade

## **LITERATURE 8th (Mrs. Braniff)**

This year students will be exploring literature through reading. The goal is to help students become real, lifetime readers with these expectations:

to learn how to choose books

to read new books

to learn when and how to abandon books

to learn new words and meanings

to discover authors and books they love

to learn what good readers do

to become more proficient and fluent in their reading

to learn to read deliberately, with better understanding and insight

to have vicarious experiences

to read often.

### **HOMEWORK:**

Five nights a week students are assigned thirty minutes of reading homework to be done AT HOME. While it is great that they may read during free time at school, thirty minutes should be set aside for literature homework (reading) five nights a week. Please help them meet that requirement and see that they are doing it in a quiet place free from outside distractions. Reading each night is one of the most important factors they can do to help them be successful in school and in life after school.

### **BOOKS:**

Students will be involved in choosing their own books this year. Please take your child to new and used bookstores and to the public library. But most importantly, please discuss his/her reading with him/her. As students begin to explore new books, they are certainly going to read about all sorts of life experiences. I have not read every book that they will find. I hope that you will be involved in helping your child choose his/her books.

## Mathematics (Mrs. Pilon)

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Goals: Students will be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers, integers, and rational numbers. Students will be able to solve 1-step, 2-step, and multi-step, simple equations. Students will be able to solve with percents and proportions.

Objective: Students will learn the properties of mathematics that will allow the students to attain the above goals.

All 7<sup>th</sup> graders use the textbook entitled, *Pre-Algebra by Prentice Hall Mathematics*. All homework is to be done in pencil. Notes may be done in pencil or pen. We will also be doing Accelerated Math this year. Usually, *four* Accelerated Math **Tests** are required for each quarter. **Tests** are to be done in class. **Practices** may be done in class or at home.

The Accelerated Math Program is designed so that each student can move at their individual pace. Students manage their own scoring and receive instant feedback *and* continuous **Practice** assignments. Therefore, students can work on Accelerated Math every night if they choose!! Please encourage your child to keep up with Accelerated Math **Practices** and **Tests** so they are not overwhelmed at the due date.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Goals: Students will be able to solve simple equations, quadratic equations, linear equations, rational equations, and radical equations.

Objective: Students will learn the properties of Algebra in order to give students a basic foundation in allow the students to attain the above goals.

All 8<sup>th</sup> graders use the textbooks entitled, *Foundations of Algebra, Algebra: A Traditional Approach to Problem Solving, and Algebra: Structure and Method*. All homework is to be done in pencil. Notes may be done in pencil or pen. There will be homework most every night. We will also be doing Accelerated Math this year. Usually, *four* Accelerated Math **Tests** are required for each quarter. **Tests** are to be done in class. **Practices** may be done in class or at home.

The Accelerated Math Program is designed so that each student can move at their individual pace. Students manage their own scoring and receive instant feedback *and* continuous **Practice** assignments. Therefore, students can work on Accelerated Math every night if they choose!! Please encourage your child to keep up with Accelerated Math **Practices** and **Tests** so they are not overwhelmed at the due date.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra Classes**

The concepts of Algebra are a developmental skill that individuals reach at different times in the maturation process. Saint Henry's Algebra classes are designed to introduce and develop fundamental algebraic concepts realizing that while a small number of students may master these skills, most students will fully develop and master these concepts at the high school level.

To this end, Saint Henry School uses the following criteria for *one* of the three 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra classes: **End of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Year Star Math Score, 7<sup>th</sup> grade IOWA Stanine Score, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Explore Math Score, and Year End Grade in Math 7.** The above criteria are not used for the remaining two Algebra classes.

Due to the nature of our schedule, Algebra classes must travel to two additional classes for Science and English. The above criteria do not affect Science or English classes.

All three 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra classes use the same textbooks and resource materials. A difference in the pace of the learning sometimes occurs.

## **JUNIOR HIGH RELIGION**

**(Sister Mary Barbara, O.P.)**

### **7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SUBJECT MATTER:**

- In the first semester, the students will study the Scriptures, specifically the New Testament. The students will learn about the life, ministry, and divine redeeming grace of Jesus. They will become more familiar with the writings of the New Testament.
- In the second semester the students will study morality. The students will learn that we are made for a happiness that only God can provide. We will explore the 10 Commandments, and concentrate on the Gospel beatitudes, and what it means to live a life of virtue.

### **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SUBJECT MATTER:**

- In the first semester the students will study the Church and the sacraments, with a special focus on preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. The students will learn about the beauty and necessity of the Church, its internal structure, and the role of the Holy Spirit as the life and breath of the Church. The students will also learn about the grace received in the sacraments and how we encounter the Living God in each of the sacraments.
- In the second semester, the students will conclude their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, and they will study the History of the Church. They will learn about the human and divine aspects of the Church that are manifest throughout history, and the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church throughout the ages to the present time.

### **Grading**

- Homework—20%
- Participation—10%
  - Weekly participation grades will be given.
  - Attentiveness and full participation in class activities is required
- Quiz grades—20%
  - Quizzes and pop-quizzes will be given frequently
  - Notebooks (binders) will be checked and counted as a quiz grade
- Tests and Special Projects—50%
  - Tests approximately every two weeks
  - Special projects each quarter—depends on subject matter and time limitations

## **Social Studies (Mrs. Smith)**

### **Curriculum Overview**

The seventh grade students study Tennessee History the first semester. Some of our topics are state symbols, Native American groups, early settlers, steps to statehood, our role in the Civil War, and state and local government. The focus for the second semester is World Geography. Students will cover important geographic skills, such as how to use a map scale, and important vocabulary, such as climate vs. weather. They will also learn about countries around the world, both their culture and location.

The eighth grade is focused on United States history throughout the school year. We will examine the development of our government, Civil War and Reconstruction, Industrialization, Imperialism, Progressive Movement, World War I, and the Jazz Age and Great Depression. We will continue through World War II and the Cold War, including Korea and Vietnam.

Throughout the year both grades will also learn about current events shaping our world today and make comparisons to what we our learning about our history.

### **Grading Policy**

Grades are based upon homework (20%), quizzes (20%), and tests (60%). Homework grade is based upon completing the assignments according to classroom guidelines. Assignments for the week are recorded on Monday. Students have homework assignments Monday through Thursday. Parents will be asked to sign and return failed quizzes and tests.

Spanish 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Mrs. Reed- room #202

Textbook: ¡Exprésate!: Holt, Rinehart and Winston

#### What students need for this class

- All students need to bring a composition notebook and a folder with pockets for handouts. A book cover is required for the textbook. Loose leaf and a Spanish English/ English Spanish dictionary (the dictionary is optional for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade) are also required.

#### Grading

- Grades will be given for homework, tests, quizzes, pop quizzes, participation, and any other special projects. The grading system is based on points and will be explained in class.
- Midterms and/or finals will be given to students in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> if the class average is lower than 90%. However, students that have an average of 98% or above will not take the exam regardless.
- Tests and quizzes will be announced. Pop quizzes will mostly be unannounced.
- Each half quarter students will receive a grade for participation and conduct.
- Students will be given progress reports periodically to check on academic status.

#### Extra credit

- Extra credit is for the students who have an 85% or below. The student interested in extra credit will need to talk to the teacher. Extra credit is not given often, it is normally worth about 10 points (added to a grade, not the average!), and these points can be used any time during the school year. **Extra credit is not given if the student doesn't complete the classwork!!**

#### Absences and make-ups

- An absent student is responsible for the material covered in class. The student has 2 days from when he/she returns to school to turn in any missing work. If no work is turned in, the student will receive a 0 for that assignment.

#### Some good tips

1. Visit "<http://www.studyspanish.com>" for extra practice.
2. Never miss homework.
3. Participate in class; ask questions.
4. Take good notes.
5. Keep all of your handouts.
6. Do flash cards to study vocabulary.
7. Try your hardest and have a positive attitude.

Student's signature:

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## **HOMEWORK POLICY FOR JUNIOR HIGH**

The following criteria must be fulfilled to receive credit for homework.

1. Homework must be done according to teacher directions.
2. Homework must be turned in on time.
3. Homework must be done in blue or black ink for all classes except for math which requires pencil.
4. Homework must have the correct heading including the page number of the assignment.

**Student Name**

**Teacher Name**

**Class and/or assignment**

**Date**

5. Papers may not have fringed ends.
6. Work must be complete
7. "white out" is not permitted.

### **Late homework/ Make-up tests**

**Excused absence**-The number of days you are absent is the number of days you have to complete make-up work.

Parents or siblings of an absent student are responsible for collecting needed materials from the lockers. If requested before 9 a.m., assignment sheets will be placed in the office.

Upon return to school, the student is responsible for arranging with the teacher a time to take the missed test or discuss missing assignments. Do not rely on the word of another student or the assignment sheet.

Students will lose credit according to individual teacher policy if the homework is forgotten or improper format is used.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

All books must be covered at all times. Hardback books may be covered with paper or any suitable material. Contact paper is not suitable for hardback books.