

## MRS. MORGAN'S 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE SCIENCE CLASS INFORMATION

This is to remain in your science folder at all times

### Materials Needed:

- Spiral notebook
- 1 two pocket folder with fasteners in center for use daily in class
- Pencils and/or pens (blue or black only) assignments completed in other colors of ink, colored pencil, marker, etc. **WILL NOT be accepted.**
- Loose leaf paper
- Calculator (If you have one please bring one daily. It will be helpful for some activities.)

If other items are needed a request will be given well in advance.

### Content:

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum addresses broad areas of physical science, Earth science, life science, scientific thinking, and the use of mathematics in science. As we study these diverse science topics, we will explore the connections between science and other subject areas, and discuss current events in science as appropriate.

### Methods and Expectations:

You will do many different things to help you learn about science. These include hands-on activities, library and Internet research, reading and writing about science topics, group and class discussions, and videos. When possible, students will be given choices of materials, methods, and topics. Brief lectures, notes, tests, and quizzes will be balanced with projects, hands-on activities, group work, and other creative ways to show what you have learned. All students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning. Whatever the task, remember that it is an opportunity for to show me what you know so always give your best effort! Daily the following will be expected:

1. Bring required materials to class everyday.  
As a general rule I will not issue passes to students for thing that have been forgotten. Student need to make sure that they have everything they needed for class and take care of personnel needs during the passing period.
2. Come to class with assignments completed.  
Make sure you have assignments completed before you come to class. Assignments are to be ready to turn in when the bell rings. Assignments turned in after I have collected them will be considered late.
3. Be in class on time.  
When you enter the classroom an assignment/task will be posted on the board. Upon entering the room students should go to their seats and begin working on the posted assignment/task. This will be called "Bell Work." All "Bell Work" assignments/tasks will be done on notebook paper and kept in your daily science folder. Bell work should be started when you enter the room, do not wait until the bell rings. Students who are not in their assigned seat when the bell rings will be marked as tardy.
4. Be respectful of yourself and others.  
Students will speak only when positively contributing to class. Putting down classmates for their answers and opinions will not be tolerated. Student will not speak while others are speaking. Also students will not take or damage others property.

### Reading and Writing:

Reading and writing are absolutely critical in science. The reading you will do for this class will help you to develop new vocabulary, and will help you develop reading strategies that can help you succeed in other areas besides science! Some assignments will also require you to express yourself in writing. Writing can help you refine your ideas, develop your understanding of a topic, and remember what you have learned. When homework assignments require writing, answers must always be written in complete sentences; spelling, grammar, and punctuation count!

### Grading:

Grading will be done on the point system. At the end of the grading period I will add up the total number of points earned and divide this number by the total number of points possible. You can find the grading scale on page 7 of your student assignment book. You will be required to keep a running total of the points that they have earned in their science folder. This will allow you

to know at any point in the grading period what their grade is. Grades will be assigned both for your performance on work that is turned in, and for your participation in class.

**Assignments/Projects/Labs:**

Late assignments will be accepted for half credit. Assignments and the date due will be listed on the board and must be recorded in your Student Handbook. Students should check the board daily and write assignments in their assignment book at the beginning of each class period. I am also going to **try** and keep assignments/labs/projects updated on my webpage. Emergency situation do arise, if you need extra time on an assignment (for a good reason) talk to me! Missing assignment hurt your grade. Computer problems at home, broken printers, internet down for example, is not and emergency and will not be accepted as a valid excuse for assignments turned in late.

**Laboratory:**

The lab benches are off limits at all times. Since I teach both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade there will be numerous occasions where labs will be set up for one class that will not be used by the other. For the safety of the students and avoiding compromising other students' work under no circumstance should students be in the lab area without permission.

**Attendance and Absence Policies:**

Make-up work will be made available whenever possible; please remember, however, that some activities cannot be made up. I will follow the policies outlined in your Academic Handbook (page 9) regarding make-up work. When you return after an absence, **it is YOUR responsibility to request make-up work.** After an absence students should check that appropriate class folder for assignments that they might have missed. Please ask me about make-up work before the bell rings or at the end of the class period; do not expect the whole class to wait while you catch up.

**Detention (class period, lunch and after school):**

Students may be assigned detention by me for the following reasons.

Failing to follow class policies

Not completing assignments (3 assignments)

Loosing lab privileges (also will result in a failing grade for lab)

Students who have been assigned a detention are responsible for finding out what they missed in class if detention is assigned during class time.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

**Mrs. Anndra Morgan**

Phone 330-7745 ext. 244

Email:amorgan@mccsc.edu

WebPage:<http://www.mccsc.edu/~amorgan/amorgan.html>

Have your parents sign that you have went over this information with them and attach in your science folder.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_