

Introduction

Welcome to 8th Grade Physical Science!

Office Hours: I am available Monday – Friday from 8:15 am to 4:15 pm by email.

Course Description and Objectives

The focus of this course is to introduce physics, chemistry and astronomy while building on knowledge from previous science courses (Earth Science and Life Sciences). Our topics of study throughout the year will focus on the nature of science and scientific inquiry including matter, atoms, chemical bonding, energy, force/motion, and electricity.

We will cover:

Unit 1: Structure and Properties of Matter

Unit 2: Interaction of Energy and Matter

Unit 3: Waves

Unit 4: Force and Motion

Unit 5: Electricity & Magnetism

Textbook: Physical Science (McGraw Hill) / Student Book Website: <https://connect.mheducation.com>

Course Assessment Plan

Students will receive a variety of assignments designed to enhance their learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment. Students who have an excused absence will be allowed 5 days to turn in the missed assignment. No work will be accepted after 5 days unless there are extenuating circumstances and approval.

Grading Policy

- Homework: 10% (assigned at teacher's discretion)
- Quizzes: 15%
- Laboratory Reports: 15%
- Class Assignments: 15%
- Assessment: 20%
- Final (Quarterly) Exam: 25%

***Please note that behavior will influence a student's grades in this course. ***

Assignments

- I will assign homework assignments. A new concept cannot be fully understood until it has been applied in problem solving. The students may be given some class time to work on their assignments. If students do not complete the assignment in class, it becomes homework.
- Students will be required to make sure that their laboratory notebook assignments are complete. I will review them randomly throughout each week for completeness. In the event of notebook loss, students must recreate all pages in the notebook to receive full credit.

Laboratory Activities

Throughout the school year, the student will engage in laboratory activities to help reinforce the information that they are learning through their class activities. Students must pass the laboratory safety exam before students can participate in laboratory activities.

Expectations

All students are expected to enter the classroom on time and be prepared (bring all materials to class daily) and ready to learn. Attendance to all classes is mandatory. Every student is responsible for helping to maintain a clean and safe learning environment. All students are to abide by all rules in the Richmond County and Murphey Middle School student handbook. All students are to bring a positive attitude to class with them each day and to open their minds to new ideas and ways of thinking about the world around them. Science is about investigating and interrupting the world.

Course Materials

Subject Dividers

Pens (Blue/Black) and Pencils

I have received, read, and understood the syllabus.

(Parent/Guardian Name) _____ Date _____

(Student Name) _____ Date _____