Sixth Grade

6th Grade SOCIAL STUDIES

**Teacher:** Mrs. Hrabsky

**Text:** *History of Our World, The Early Ages*

**Assessment:** 25%-Homework, 30%-Quizzes/Portfolios/Projects, 45%-Test/long term projects. As a class we will read, discuss, and take notes pertaining to each chapter. After a lesson is completed, students will be assigned vocabulary and assessment questions, as well as a worksheet to help reinforce the lesson taught in the classroom.

**Portfolios:** Students are responsible to maintain a portfolio. To earn maximum credit portfolios must contain the following:
- Cover page with chapter title and student’s name
- Vocabulary word for the entire chapter
- Assessment questions **ANSWERED IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**
- Worksheet for each lesson in the chapter
- Classroom Notes
- Vocabulary Quiz
- Chapter Review **ANSWERED IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.** Will be taken as a quiz grade.

Portfolios are due the day of a chapter test and count as a quiz grade.

**Chapter Review:** To prepare for chapter tests, students will complete a Chapter Review consisting of approximately 10 questions. Answers must be written out neatly or typed in COMPLETE SENTENCES. Chapter Reviews are taken as a quiz grade.

**Quizzes/Test:** Quizzes are given after 2 – 3 sections have been completed in a chapter. A vocabulary quiz will be given after each chapter. Tests are announced at least one week in advance. Students are expected to spell vocabulary correctly on quizzes and tests.

**Outside Projects:** One outside project will be due for most chapters. Projects are usually related to “skills” sections of the chapter. Projects might include creating timelines, maps, collages, or written assignments.

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**ON LEVEL MATH 6**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Hrabsky

**Text:** *Progress in Math*

**Assessment:** 25%-Homework, 30%-Quizzes/Portfolios, 45%-Tests

**Homework:** Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of the lesson. Students are expected to complete homework assignments thoroughly. Parents are encouraged to review homework assignments with their child.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will always be announced. Each chapter contains approximately 15 to 17 lessons. A quiz will be given after 5 or 6 different concepts have been taught.

**“Take Home” pre-test** – A day or two before a chapter test, students are given a take-home pre-test. Students are encouraged to review the work with a parent or adult. The pre-test will count as a quiz grade.

**Portfolio** – Students are to maintain a math portfolio. To earn maximum credit students must include the following:
- Text book work with page and date
All workbook pages pertaining to the chapter
Quizzes and handouts
Portfolios should be neatly displayed, complete in content, and arranged in the proper order.

6th Grade ADVANCED MATH:
Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann
Text: Math Connects
Simple Solutions
Assessment: 25% - Homework, 30% - Quizzes/Portfolio, 45% - Tests
Homework Policy: Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of class lessons. It is essential that each student be self-motivated and responsible for completing all assigned work thoroughly and on time. I use a variety of tools to ensure success in this area and to encourage strong work habits and organizational skills. Daily use of a student planner, homework monitoring, and consistent home-school communication assists students in remaining on track.
Portfolio: Portfolios will be collected on test day. All material (class/homework, handouts, maintenance sheets, quizzes, etc.) for that particular chapter must be organized in a folder. Portfolios will be assessed for organization, neatness, and completeness and counted as a quiz grade.
Quizzes: Quizzes are often announced, but sometimes unannounced. Please encourage your child to review his/her lessons each night.
Tests: A pre-test/chapter review will be given two to three days before each test; students should use this as a study tool, in addition to their portfolio, to prepare for the chapter test. Approximately one week’s notice will be given before each test.

6th Grade ENGLISH:
Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann
Text: Voyages in English – Main focus - Part II - "Exploring Our Language: Grammar, Correct Usage, Mechanics"
Assessment: 25% - Homework, 30% - Quizzes/Various writing assignments, 45% - Tests/Long-term projects
Homework Policy: Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of class lessons. It is essential that each student be self-motivated and responsible for completing all assigned work thoroughly and on time. I use a variety of tools to ensure success in this area and to encourage strong work habits and organizational skills. Daily use of a student planner, homework monitoring, and consistent home-school communication assists students in remaining on track.
Writing Assignments: Various writing assignments (descriptive, expository, narrative and persuasive essays, and creative writing) will be included in the curriculum.
Quizzes: Quizzes are often announced, but sometimes unannounced. Please encourage your child to review his/her lessons each night.
Tests: Tests are given throughout each chapter. At least one week’s notice is always given for upcoming tests.

6th Grade LITERATURE:
Teacher: Mrs. Costanzo

Assessment:
Homework – 25%
Class work - 25%
Tests/Projects – 50%

Vocabulary Tests: Students are given a list of vocabulary words and the definitions. On vocabulary test, students must include the entire definition for each word.

Literature Binder:
A separate three-ring binder with five subject dividers is required. Please do not use a multi-course binder. The dividers should be labeled as follows:

- Nonfiction Notes
- Nonfiction Vocabulary
- Myth Notes
- Myth Vocabulary
- Misc.

- All class notes dictated by the teacher should be on loose-leaf paper under the note section. For example, any class notes on the Nonfiction unit should go in the Nonfiction Notes section.
- All vocabulary handouts should go into the Vocabulary section for that unit.

Literature Journal:
- This should be a separate marble composition book. Students are regularly assigned a topic to write on that relates to what they are reading. They should have the topic title and the date on the top line. They are required to write an entire page on the topic. This is collected periodically for a grade and the students are told when a Journal check is coming up.

Sixth Grade SCIENCE

Teacher: Mrs. Malinowski

Text: Earth and Space I Science by Glencoe

Assessment: 25% Homework, Portfolios, Labs and Class work, 30% Quizzes and Lab journal, 45% Tests and Projects. The lowest homework grade each quarter is dropped.

Class-work: Classroom activity will vary and will include projects, writing, reading, discussion, note taking, working in groups, using technology and engaging in scientific experiment. A Science project will be produced as a team and completed in the last quarter.

Homework: Homework is to reinforce concepts introduced and discussed in class and may complement daily classroom activity. Students should study and/or review notes and text daily. Homework will include internet assignments. Students have a variety of methods to identify homework assignments. Homework assignments are announced in class, written on the board, listed on a power point slide at the beginning of class and available on the teacher’s blog.

Quizzes, Tests and Projects: Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a 3-4 day notice for a test. Projects will vary between 1-2 weeks in length.
**Portfolios:** Students are required to maintain a portfolio. This portfolio is important to review prior to any test or quiz: The contents may vary slightly based on the topic, but will generally include

*Chapter Title Page containing student name and title. The Title Page should be enhanced with drawings or graphics detailing the chapter topic.*
*Vocabulary for each section unless otherwise designated.*
*Lesson reviews as assigned by teacher*
*Class notes*
*Worksheets and handouts*

All assignments should be dated and include the page number from the text.

*Portfolios are always turned in the day of a Test.*

**Health Grade**
A Health grade is assigned each term and is part of the Science grade. This grade is earned in Health class and counts as a quiz grade.

*Please refer to the parent-student handbook for policies on absences and late work*

**6th Grade RELIGION**

**Teacher: Mrs. Malinowski**

**Text:** *Christ Our Life-Loyola Press*

Additional text: *Break Through the Bible for Young Catholics, The Catholic Bible Story Workbook*

**Assessment** – 25% - Homework and Classwork, 35% - Quizzes and Projects, 40% Tests and Portfolios

**Portfolio** – Students are expected to keep a portfolio for all religion work. It is turned in the day that we have a Unit Test – about every six weeks.

*The Portfolio will include but not be limited to the following:*

Classwork assignments to include individual and group work.

Homework assignments.

Quizzes and worksheets.

Chapter Theme Page (cover page)for each chapter. This can be designed and printed from a computer, original art or student made-crossword puzzles can be used. The page needs to demonstrate an understanding of the information in the chapter. Each missing page deducts 5% from the Portfolio Test grade.

Projects, individual and group.
Portfolios will count as a test grade.

**Participation** – Students are expected to participate in several religious events. An example is preparing the mass and a play for St. Francis day in the park. The student will have a rubric to help them understand how the participation grade is assessed. The participation grade will be based on effort, initiative and behavior. Participation activities can count as a quiz or homework grade.

**Tests/Quizzes** – Students will be assessed in the form of a quiz after completing each chapter. This is usually once a week. Once we have completed four or five chapters, students will use their portfolios to prepare for a unit test.

**6th Grade Spanish:**
**Teacher:** Mrs. Seay

**Class Description:**
The sixth grade Spanish curriculum focuses on preparing students for Level 1, which is taken in seventh and eighth grade for high school credit. The goal of the program is to develop competency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through a variety of activities that focus on the language in different real life situations. Students are encouraged to use the language as much as possible. Class participation is highly encouraged.

**Supplies Required:**
1 1/2.” 3 ring binder
Package of 5 pocket folders to go into binder or 5 subject dividers for binder
Two large packs of lined 3 X 5 index cards (optional)
Loose-leaf paper for notes
Spanish/English Dictionary (Larousse or Vox) (optional)

**Assessment:**
Homework/classwork 25%
Participation 15%
Quizzes 35%
Tests 25%

**Class Policies:**
Be on time.
Be prepared.
Be attentive.
Be respectful.
Do your homework!

**Study Hints:**
Listen, imitate, memorize, and practice.
Know the rules that make the language work.
Study out loud.
Read the Spanish word aloud, then the English word.
Divide the material and study time into small units.
Do your homework when it is assigned.
Use pink cards for feminine nouns and blue cards for masculine nouns.
6th Grade ART:
Teacher: Mrs. Hess

Projects: Sixth graders are responsible for completing two outside projects for the year—one with an assigned team and the other individually. Each student is responsible for participation and contributing an equal share to joint work.

Assessment: 30% - Journal work, 40% - Effort and participation in and out of class on art work, 30% - Productivity

The journals are partially self-paced in that a student may make multiple entries over a given week. Periodically, I will assign specific journal work and discuss vocabulary terms that should be kept in the journals. Students are expected to bring journals EVERY WEEK, along with an appropriate drawing pencil as I may assign in-class journal work on occasion.

Preparation: While there is not an actual grade for preparedness, those students who do not come to class with the REQUIRED smock and art tools (kits) will be excluded from participating in any projects for which they are not dressed appropriately or do not have the needed equipment to do the activity.

6th Grade Computer Class:
Teacher: Mrs. Newger

Resources:
- Diocesan Technology Guidelines
- Virginia State Technology Standards
- National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing
- Internet Educational Web Sites

Assessment:
- 35% - Class Assignments/e-Portfolio
- 20% - Keyboarding Skills & Speed Tests
- 45% - IT Tests/Quizzes

Class Assignments/e-Portfolio: All assignments created in the IT Computer Lab are to be completed during class time, printed and saved into the student’s electronic portfolio. The printed hardcopy is to be turned in upon completion. In the event a student does not complete the assignment during class time, he/she is responsible for the completion of the assignment as soon as possible. e-Portfolios are reviewed for a grade and students are usually given advance notice of the portfolio review. All assignments are expected to be completed and included in the e-Portfolio.

Keyboarding Skills & Speed Tests: Keyboarding practice time is given to students on a regular basis aside from their class assignments. Periodically, they are required to complete a typing speed test and print out a certificate indicating their typing speed and accuracy. The keyboarding speed goal for Grade 6 is 25wpm with 90% accuracy.

Study Materials: Students are given study materials is various formats. It may be in the form of a study guide of computer terminology, a quiz that was given, reviewed and corrected or worksheets completed in class. In each case, students are informed to use these items as study materials in preparation for tests. An IT folder is recommended.
Tests/Quizzes: Students are informed of their scheduled test date approximately one to two weeks before the test. Prior to testing, assignments in class are given which cover the areas that will be tested. We also have oral reviews of computer terminology to reinforce the different technology concepts, components and capabilities. Quizzes are seldom given as we only meet once a week, but when given, are usually not announced but used as a guide for further studies.

Homework: With the exception of studying for upcoming tests in computer class, homework is not usually assigned.

Disks and Mobile Drives: We discourage students from bringing disks and mobile flash drives into school for security concerns and prevention of computer viruses. In the event that it is absolutely necessary to do so, all portable storage devices must be scanned for viruses prior to being used on school computer equipment.

Seventh Grade

7th Grade RELIGION:
Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann
Text: Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life
Assessment: 25% - Homework, 30% - Quizzes, 45% - Tests/Journal
Journals: All definitions, notes, reflections, and various assignments will be kept in the religion journal. Journals are collected once during each quarter and are counted as two test grades. If students are absent, it is their responsibility to make sure their journal entries are up-to-date.
Scripture: Bible Trivia packets are distributed weekly. Please urge your child to look up the Scripture verse (annotated next to the question). If you do not have a Bible at home, your child can borrow one from the classroom.
Writing Assignments: All essays, research projects, etc., are counted as either a quiz or test grade. Please remind your child to check all written work for correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
Catholic Social Teaching: Students will participate in various activities/service projects throughout the year that will emphasize each of the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching.
Church Service: Each Friday morning the seventh grade is responsible for tidying up the pews for the weekend liturgies. Students who are preparing for Confirmation will receive four church hours for this service.

7TH GRADE ADVANCED MATH
Teacher: Mrs. Hrabsky
Text: New Progress in Math
Assessment: 25%- Homework, 30%-Quizzes/Portfolios, 45%-Tests
Homework: Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of the lesson. Students are expected to complete homework assignments thoroughly. Parents are encouraged to review homework assignments with their child.
**Quizzes:** Quizzes will always be announced. Each chapter contains approximately 15 to 17 lessons. A quiz will be given after 5 or 6 different concepts have been taught.

**“Take Home” pre-test** – A day or two before a chapter test, students are given a take-home pre-test. Students are encouraged to review the work with a parent or adult. The pre-test will count as a quiz grade.

**Composition Note Books:** Students are expected to maintain a composition book with class notes and vocabulary work for each chapter.

- Notes to maintain basic skills
- Help provide preparation for Standardized Test
- Reinforce terminology presented in the chapter

**Portfolio** – Students are to maintain a math portfolio. To earn maximum credit, students must include the following:
  - Text book work with page and date
  - All workbook pages pertaining to the chapter
  - Quizzes and handouts

Portfolios should be neatly displayed, complete in content, and arranged in the proper order.

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**7th Grade On grade level MATH:**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Keeven  
**Text:** Math Connects Course 2  
Glencoe, McGraw/Hill

**Assessment:** 25% - Homework, 30% - Quizzes/Portfolio, 45% - Tests

**Homework Policy:** Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of class lessons. It is essential that each student be self-motivated and responsible for completing all assigned work thoroughly and on time. I use a variety of tools to ensure success in this area and to encourage strong work habits and organizational skills. Daily use of a student planner, homework monitoring, and consistent home-school communication assists students in remaining on track.

**Portfolio:** Portfolios will be collected on test day. All material (class/homework, handouts, maintenance sheets, quizzes, etc.) for that particular chapter must be organized in a folder. Portfolios will be assessed for organization, neatness, and completeness and counted as a quiz grade.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes are often announced, but sometimes unannounced. Please encourage your child to review his/her lessons each night.

**Tests:** A pre-test/chapter review will be given one to two days before each test and will count as a quiz grade; students should use this as a study tool, in addition to their portfolio, to prepare for the chapter test. Approximately one week’s notice will be given before each test.

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**7th Grade Spanish:**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Seay  
**Class Textbook:**  
Ven Conmigo (2003). Published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston

**Class Description:** Level 1A focuses on the development of the students’ competence in Spanish. We will explore the cultures of Spain and Mexico. Grammar is integrated into the instruction. Our activities focus on the use of the language in real-life situations.
Students are encouraged to use the language as much as possible.

**Supplies Required:**
1. 1 ½” 3 ring binder
Package of 5 pocket folders to go into binder or 5 subject dividers for binder
Two large packs of lined 3 X 5 index cards (optional)
Loose-leaf paper for notes
Spanish/English Dictionary (Larousse or Vox) (optional)

**Grading:**
- Class participation 15%
- Classwork/Homework 20%
- Dictations/quizzes 30%
- Tests/projects 35%

Class participation is highly encouraged. Homework is assigned often. A parent or guardian **must** sign a chapter test grade of a C or below.

**Class Policies:**
- Be on time.
- Be prepared.
- Be attentive.
- Be respectful.
- Do your homework!!!!!

**Tutoring:**
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need help. Do not wait until the last minute. Spanish will be a challenge if you choose to not pay attention or do your work when it is assigned. Learning a foreign language takes **lots** of practice.

**Study Hints:**
- Listen, imitate, memorize, and practice.
- Know the rules that make the language work.
- Study out loud.
- Divide the material and study time into small units.
- Do your homework when it is assigned.
- Review the dialogue or the exercises with a friend. Take turns and ask each other.
- Read the foreign language word aloud, then the English word.
- Use pink cards for feminine nouns and blue cards for masculine nouns.
- Be sure to study the vocabulary words in both directions. For example, from English to Spanish, and vice versa.
- Do not fall behind and cram for tests. It doesn’t work when you are studying a foreign language.
- Build on what you already learned. You have to know what you learned the day before, the week before, and the month before.

**7th Grade Literature:**
**Teacher:** Mrs. Costanzo

**Assessment:**
- Homework – 25%,
- Classwork – 25%,
- Tests/Projects – 50%

**Vocabulary Tests:** Students are given a list of vocabulary words and the definitions. On vocabulary test, students must include the **entire** definition for each word.

**Literature 7 Binder:**
• A separate three-ring binder with four subject dividers is required. Please do not use multi-course binders. The dividers should be labeled as follows:
  o Novel Notes
  o Novel Vocabulary
  o Drama Notes
  o Drama Vocabulary
• All class notes dictated by the teacher should be on loose-leaf paper under the note section. For example, any class notes on the Novel unit should go in the Novel Notes section.
• All vocabulary handouts should go into the Vocabulary section for that unit.

**Literature 7 Journal:**
• This should be a separate marble composition book. Students are regularly assigned a topic to write on that relates to what they are reading. They should have the topic title and the date on the top line. They are required to write an entire page on the topic. This is collected periodically for a grade and the students are told when a Journal check is coming up.

**7th Grade ENGLISH:**
**Teacher:** Mrs. Costanzo
**Assessment:**
Homework – 25%
Classwork - 25%
Tests/Projects – 50%

**English Worksheet folder:**
• Students should keep all graded, returned English worksheets in a separate pocket folder. This will be turned in for a grade at the end of each unit for a test grade.
• Students should bring their English books or notes home every day to study and review what we’ve covered in class.
• English unit notes - These handouts should be kept in a pocket of the English worksheet folder.

**Seventh Grade SCIENCE**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Malinowski

**Text:** Glencoe LIFE I SCIENCE

**Assessment:** 25% Homework, Labs and Class work, 30% Quizzes, Portfolios and lab Journals, 45% Tests and Projects. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.

**Class-work:** Classroom activity will vary and will include projects, writing, reading, discussion, technology and note taking, working in groups and engaging in scientific experiment. Students should prepare to spend considerable time in cooperative groups.
**Homework:** Homework is to reinforce concepts introduced and discussed in class and may complement daily classroom activity. Students should study and/or review notes and text daily. Homework will include internet assignments and students should be familiar with the policy for on-line assignments. The student should rely on listening skills and writing the homework assignment in the agenda. The homework is projected on the board for the first five minutes of every class. The teacher blog is a secondary place to check.

**Quizzes and tests:** Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a 3-5 day notice for a test. Projects can be announced one to two weeks in advance

**Portfolios:** Students are required to maintain a portfolio. To earn maximum credit, portfolios must contain the following:

- Chapter Title Page containing student name and title.
- Vocabulary
- Lesson reviews as assigned by teacher
- Class notes
- Additional worksheets and handouts

*Portfolios are turned in the day of a test and count as a quiz grade.*

**Science Fair Project**

Students are given a timeline of assignments in the beginning of October. The final project is due near the middle of February. Each assignment is progression toward completing the project so that by the final deadline, the student has assimilated a notebook with many graded assignments. Judging occurs through an oral presentation as well as an evaluation of the display board.

**Health Grade**

A Health grade is assigned each term and is part of the Science grade. This grade is given by the health teacher and counts as a quiz grade.

*Please refer to the parent-student handbook for policies on absences and late work.*

**7th grade American History**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Keeven

**Text:** Prentice Hall, America. *History of Our Nation, Beginnings Through 1877*

**Assessment:** 25% homework, 30% quizzes, 45% tests/projects.

**Homework:** Homework is related to class work and will reinforce concepts learned in class. Students are expected to complete all homework assignments thoroughly and to review material covered in class each night.

**Quizzes and tests:** Quizzes are often announced, but sometimes unannounced. Students are encouraged to review their notes and readings each night. The student may have a classroom exercise that will be worth a quiz grade. All materials and resources for the exercise will be available during class but the exercise may not necessarily be announced. The student will have approximately one week notice for a test.
Portfolios: Students maintain a 3-ring binder for history that is organized with following subject dividers for vocabulary, class notes, homework, quizzes, and study guide worksheets. Portfolios are due the day of a chapter test. All material (class/homework, handouts, class notes, study guide worksheets, and quizzes) must be included and organized with the corresponding dividers. Portfolios will be assessed for organization, neatness, and completeness and counted as a quiz grade.

Projects: At least one project per quarter will be assigned. These may be in school, cooperative, or at home and will be counted as a test grade.

7th Grade Computer Class:
Teacher: Mrs. Newger

Resources:
- Diocesan Technology Guidelines
- Virginia State Technology Standards
- National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing
- Internet Educational Web Sites

Assessment:
- 35% - Class Assignments/e-Portfolio
- 20% - Keyboarding Skills & Speed Tests
- 45% - IT Tests/Quizzes

Class Assignments/e-Portfolio: All assignments created in the IT Computer Lab are to be completed during class time, printed and saved into the student’s electronic portfolio. The printed hardcopy is to be turned in upon completion. In the event a student does not complete the assignment during class time, he/she is responsible for the completion of the assignment as soon as possible. e-Portfolios are reviewed for a grade and students are usually given advance notice of the portfolio review. All assignments are expected to be completed and included in the e-Portfolio.

Keyboarding Skills & Speed Tests: Keyboarding practice time is given to students on a regular basis aside from their class assignments. Periodically, they are required to complete a typing speed test and print out a certificate indicating their typing speed and accuracy. The keyboarding speed goal for Grade 7 is 30wpm with 90% accuracy.

Study Materials: Students are given study materials in various formats. It may be in the form of a study guide of computer terminology, a quiz that was given, reviewed and corrected or worksheets completed in class. In each case, students are informed to use these items as study materials in preparation for tests. An IT folder is recommended.

Tests/Quizzes: Students are informed of their scheduled test date approximately one to two weeks before the test. Prior to testing, assignments in class are given which cover the areas that will be tested. We also have oral reviews of computer terminology to reinforce the different technology concepts, components and capabilities. Quizzes are seldom given as we only meet once a week, but when given, are usually not announced but used as a guide for further studies.

Homework: With the exception of studying for upcoming tests in computer class, homework is not usually assigned.
**Disks and Mobile Drives:** We discourage students from bringing disks and mobile flash drives into school for security concerns and prevention of computer viruses. In the event that it is absolutely necessary to do so, all portable storage devices must be scanned for viruses prior to being used on school computer equipment.

IT Program
Veronica Newger

**7th Grade ART: Mrs. Hess**

**Projects:** Seventh graders are responsible for completing two outside projects for the year—one with an assigned team and the other individually. Each student is responsible for participation and contributing an equal share to joint work.

**Assessment:** 30% - Journal work, 40% - Effort and participation in and out of class on art work, 30% - Productivity

The journals are partially self-paced in that a student may make multiple entries over a given week. Periodically, I will assign specific journal work and discuss vocabulary terms that should be kept in the journals. Students are expected to bring journals EVERY WEEK, along with an appropriate drawing pencil as I may assign in-class journal work on occasion.

**Preparation:** While there is not an actual grade for preparedness, those students who do not come to class with the REQUIRED smock and art tools (kits) will be excluded from participating in any projects for which they are not dressed appropriately or do not have the needed equipment to do the activity.

**Eighth Grade**

**8th Grade RELIGION:**

Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann

Text: *Confirmed in the Spirit*  
*The Church Then and Now*

**Assessment:** 25% - Homework, 30% - Quizzes, 45% - Tests/Journal

**Journals:** All definitions, notes, reflections, and various assignments will be kept in the religion journal. Journals are collected once during each quarter and are counted as two test grades. If students are absent, it is their responsibility to make sure their journal entries are up-to-date.

**Writing Assignments:** All essays, research projects, etc., are counted as either a quiz or test grade. Please remind your child to check all written work for correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

**Catholic Social Teaching:** Students will participate in various activities/service projects throughout the year that will emphasize each of the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

**8th GRADE PRE-ALGEBRA**

Teacher: Mrs. Keeven
**Text:** Pre-Algebra (Glencoe)

**Assessment:** 25% - Homework, 30% - Quizzes/Portfolios, 45% - Tests

**Homework:** Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of the lesson. Students are expected to complete homework assignments thoroughly. Parents are encouraged to review homework assignments with their child.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes may or may not be announced. Each chapter contains several lessons. Student can expect to take at least two quizzes per chapter.

**Take-home Pretest:** The night before a chapter test, students are given a take-home pre-test. Students are encouraged to review the work with a parent or adult. The pre-test will count as a quiz grade.

**Portfolio** – Students are to maintain a math portfolio. To earn maximum credit students must include the following:
- Text book work with page and date
- All workbook pages pertaining to the chapter
- Quizzes and handouts

Portfolios should be neatly displayed, complete in content and arranged in the proper order.

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**Algebra 1**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Hrabsky

**Text:** Prentice Hall Algebra1

**Class Requirements:**
- To come to class with all supplies: books, pencils, pens, loose leaf, etc.
- Completion of daily homework assignments @ 30 – 45 minutes
- Full participation in class.
- **If absent, it is the student’s responsibility to check the blog and complete homework assignments.**

**Assessment:** 25% - Homework and Classwork, 30% - Quizzes/Portfolios, 45% - Tests

**Homework:** Homework is given as an extension and reinforcement of the lesson. Students are expected to complete homework assignments thoroughly. Parents are encouraged to review homework assignments with their child.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will given weekly and are always announced.

**Test:** Tests will be given after every chapter and cumulative tests after every other chapter.

**Composition Note Books:** Students are expected to maintain a composition book with class notes and vocabulary work for each chapter.
- Notes to maintain basic skills
- Help provide preparation for Standardized Test
- Reinforce terminology presented in the chapter

**Portfolio:** Students are to maintain a math portfolio. Textbook work, worksheets, quizzes and tests need to be neatly organized in portfolios. This will help students study for cumulative tests. Composition books and Portfolios will be collected after every other chapter and graded as a quiz.
Grade SPANISH:
Teacher: Mrs. Seay
Class Textbook: Ven Conmigo (2003). Published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston
Class Description:
Level 1 will review lessons 1-6, and continue to develop competence in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through a variety of activities which focus on the use of the language in different real life situations. Students are encouraged to use the language as much as possible. We will explore the cultures of Spain, Mexico, Ecuador, United States (Florida, Texas) and Puerto Rico.
Supplies Required:
1 1½” 3 ring binder
Package of 5 pocket folders to go into binder or 5 subject dividers for binder
Two large packs of lined 3 X 5 index cards (optional)
Loose-leaf paper for notes
Spanish/English Dictionary (Larousse or Vox)
Copy of Barron's 501 Spanish Verbs by Christopher and Theodore Kendris. (Optional*)
The purchase of Barron's 501 Spanish Verbs is recommended for students interested in pursuing their study of the Spanish language.
Grading:
Class participation 15%
Classwork/Homework 20%
Quizzes/Dictations 30%
Tests/projects 35%
*Class participation is highly encouraged. Homework is assigned often. A parent or guardian must sign a chapter test grade of a C or below.
Class Policies:
Be on time.
Be prepared.
Be attentive.
Be respectful.
Do your homework!!!!!
Tutoring:
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need help. Do not wait until the last minute. Spanish will be a challenge if you choose to not pay attention or not do your work when it is assigned. Learning a foreign language takes lots of practice.
Study Hints:
Listen, imitate, memorize, and practice.
Know the rules that make the language work.
Study aloud.
Divide the material and study time into small units.
Do your homework when it is assigned.
Review the dialogue or the exercises with a friend. Take turns and ask each other.
Read the foreign language word aloud, then the English word.
Use pink cards for feminine nouns and blue cards for masculine nouns.
Be sure to study the vocabulary words in both directions. For example, from English to Spanish, and vice versa.
Do not fall behind and cram for tests. It doesn’t work when you are studying a foreign language.
Build on what you already learned. You have to know what you learned the day before, the week before, and the month before.

*To have another language is to possess a second soul.*
(Charlemagne)

**Note**

The participation grade will be based on the following:
- Bringing materials (book, binder, pen, homework, agenda) to each Spanish class
- Participating in all activities with enthusiasm and a positive attitude.
- Speaking Spanish during class time.

**8th Grade Literature:**
**Teacher:** Mrs. Costanzo
**Assessment:**
- Homework – 25%
- Classwork - 25%
- Tests/Projects – 50%

**Vocabulary Tests:** Students are given a list of vocabulary words and the definitions. On vocabulary test, students must include the *entire* definition for each word.

**Literature 8 Binder:**
- A separate three-ring binder with four subject dividers is required. Please do not use a multi-course binder. The dividers should be labeled as follows:
  - Short Story Notes
  - Short Story Vocabulary
  - Poetry Notes
  - Poetry Vocabulary
- All class notes dictated by the teacher should be on loose-leaf paper under the note section. For example, any class notes on the Short Story unit should go in the Short Story Notes section.
- All vocabulary handouts should go into the Vocabulary section for that unit.

**Literature 8 Journal:**
- This should be a separate marble composition book. Students are regularly assigned a topic to write on that relates to what they are reading. They should have the topic title and the date on the top line. They are required to write an *entire* page on the topic. This is collected periodically for a grade and the students are told when a Journal check is coming up.

**8th Grade English:**
**Teacher:** Mrs. Costanzo
**Assessment:**
- Homework – 25%
- Classwork - 25%
- Tests/Projects – 50%
**English Worksheet Folder:**
- Students should keep all graded, returned English worksheets in a separate pocket folder. This will be turned in for a grade at the end of each unit for a test grade.
- Students should bring their English books or notes home every day to study and review what we’ve covered in class.
- English unit notes - These handouts should be kept in a pocket of the English worksheet folder.

**Eighth Grade SCIENCE**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Malinowski

**Text:** Physical iScience by Glencoe

**Assessment:** 25% Homework, Labs and Class work, 30% Quizzes, Portfolios and Lab journals, 45% Tests and Projects.

**Class-work:** Classroom activity will vary and will include projects, writing, reading, discussion, and note taking, working in groups and engaging in scientific experiment. There will be an emphasis on preparing for High School Science. Students should prepare to spend considerable time in cooperative groups.

**Homework:** Homework is to reinforce concepts introduced and discussed in class and may complement daily classroom activity. Students should study and/or review notes and text daily. Homework will include internet assignments and students should be familiar with the policy for on-line assignments. The eighth grade student should be familiar with the many methods available to find out the homework assignments.

**Quizzes and tests:** Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a 3-5 day notice for a test.

**Portfolios:** Students are required to maintain a portfolio. To earn maximum credit, portfolios must contain the following:

- Chapter Title Page containing student name and title.
- Vocabulary
- Lesson reviews as assigned by teacher
- Class notes
- Additional worksheets and handouts

*Portfolios are turned in the day of a final chapter evaluation and count as a quiz grade.*

**Science Fair Project**
Students are given a timeline of assignments in the beginning of October. The final project is due near the middle of February. Each assignment is progression toward
completing the project so that by the final deadline, the student has assimilated a notebook with many graded assignments. Judging occurs through an oral presentation as well as an evaluation of the display board.

**Health Grade**

A Health grade is assigned each term and is part of the Science grade. This grade is given by the health teacher and counts as a quiz grade.

*Please refer to the parent-student handbook for policies on absences and late work.*

**8th grade American History**

**Teacher: Mrs. Keeven**

**Grade 8 Text:** Prentice Hall, *America: History of Our Nation, Civil War to the Present*

**Assessment:** 25% homework, 30% quizzes, 45% tests/projects.

**Homework:** Homework is related to class work and will reinforce concepts learned in class. Students are expected to complete all homework assignments thoroughly and to review material covered in class each night.

**Quizzes and tests:** Quizzes are often announced, but sometimes unannounced. Students are encouraged to review their notes and readings each night. The student may have a classroom exercise that will be worth a quiz grade. All materials and resources for the exercise will be available during class but the exercise may not necessarily be announced. The student will have approximately one week notice for a test.

**Portfolios:** Students maintain a 3-ring binder for history that is organized with following subject dividers for vocabulary, class notes, homework, quizzes, and study guide worksheets. Portfolios are due the day of a chapter test. All materials (class/homework, handouts, class notes, study guide worksheets, and quizzes) must be included and organized with the corresponding dividers. Portfolios will be assessed for organization, neatness, and completeness and counted as a quiz grade.

**Projects:** At least one project per quarter will be assigned. These may be in school, cooperative, or at home and will be counted as a test grade.

**8th Grade Computer Class:**

**Teacher: Mrs. Newger**

**Resources:**

Diocesan Technology Guidelines  
Virginia State Technology Standards  
National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)  
Microsoft Office Suite  
Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing  
Internet Educational Web Sites

**Assessment:**

35% - Class Assignments/e-Portfolio  
20% - Keyboarding Skills & Speed Tests  
45% - IT Tests/Quizzes
**Class Assignments/e-Portfolio:** All assignments created in the IT Computer Lab are to be completed during class time, printed and saved into the student’s electronic portfolio. The printed hardcopy is to be turned in upon completion. In the event a student does not complete the assignment during class time, he/she is responsible for the completion of the assignment as soon as possible. e-Portfolios are reviewed for a grade and students are usually given advance notice of the portfolio review. All assignments are expected to be completed and included in the e-Portfolio.

**Keyboarding Skills & Speed Tests:** Keyboarding practice time is given to students on a regular basis aside from their class assignments. Periodically, they are required to complete a typing speed test and print out a certificate indicating their typing speed and accuracy. The keyboarding speed goal for Grade 8 is 35wpm with 95% accuracy.

**Study Materials:** Students are given study materials in various formats. It may be in the form of a study guide of computer terminology, a quiz that was given, reviewed and corrected or worksheets completed in class. In each case, students are informed to use these items as study materials in preparation for tests. An IT folder is recommended.

**Tests/Quizzes:** Students are informed of their scheduled test date approximately one to two weeks before the test. Prior to testing, assignments in class are given which cover the areas that will be tested. We also have oral reviews of computer terminology to reinforce the different technology concepts, components and capabilities. Quizzes are seldom given as we only meet once a week, but when given, are usually not announced but used as a guide for further studies.

**Homework:** With the exception of studying for upcoming tests in computer class, homework is not usually assigned.

**Disks and Mobile Drives:** We discourage students from bringing disks and mobile flash drives into school for security concerns and prevention of computer viruses. In the event that it is absolutely necessary to do so, all portable storage devices must be scanned for viruses prior to being used on school computer equipment.

8th Grade Art:

**Teacher:** Mrs. Hess

**Projects:** Eighth graders are responsible for completing two outside projects for the year-one with an assigned team and the other individually. Each student is responsible for participation and contributing an equal share to joint work.

**Assessment:** 30% - Journal work, 40% - Effort and participation in and out of class on art work, 30% - Productivity

The journals are partially self-paced in that a student may make multiple entries over a given week. Periodically, I will assign specific journal work and discuss vocabulary terms that should be kept in the journals. Students are expected to bring journals **EVERY WEEK**, along with an appropriate drawing pencil as I may assign in-class journal work on occasion.

**Preparation:** While there is not an actual grade for preparedness, those students who do not come to class with the **REQUIRED** smock and art tools (kits) will be excluded from
participating in any projects for which they are not dressed appropriately or do not have the needed equipment to do the activity.