8th Grade Science Syllabus

2015-2016

Mr. Browne

Welcome to 8th grade science. The following is an outline of course information, rules and discipline procedures, grading, and classroom procedures. This information is provided so that the parent and the student understand the classroom expectations and routines so we can have a great year! I have high expectations of myself and my students. If ever there is a question or comment that the student or parent would like to make, don’t hesitate to contact me at 248-684-8101 (x6422). You can also e-mail me at [**david.browne@hvs.org**](mailto:david.browne@hvs.org)**.** (Usually the best way)

Students should utilize some means to stay organized. They should write down their assignments/projects/upcoming quizzes or tests on a daily basis. With current technologies this is easier than ever. The week’s assignments will be posted on the door in the classroom, the school website, and the homework hotline. In addition, there will be e-mails home to serve as a communication tool between parents and teacher. I have started a website [**www.brownescience.weebly.com**](http://www.brownescience.weebly.com). This website can be used for students to download notes, assignments, and videos from class as well as find links to websites that will help them study. Additionally, text reminders and updates can be sent to both parents and students through a program called remind.

We conduct labs in science class as often as possible. Students will also outline “big ideas” from class an interactive science notebook they will create in class. They will need 2 comp books to use as the notebook. (One for each semester) These notebooks will allow me to check for understanding, but will also serve as a study tool for students.

There will be certain times of the year that there will be a lot of homework, and some times of the year where there will be very little, depending on what we are accomplishing in class. All homework that is given has a purpose. We will not be conducting busy work but enhancing what we are working on in the classroom. Collaboration with other students during class work is often incorporated.

Classroom Expectations:

* Be on Time! If your entire body is not inside the room when the door closes for class or you will be tardy!
* **Passes will not be given for items forgotten**. No passes will be given for any reason in the first or last 10 minutes of class.
* Throw things away at the end of class on your way out. Sharpen pencils on your way in, not when I’m talking
* **Bring your book, duo tang , notebook, pencil, tape, scissors, glue sticks, and comp book** to class unless told otherwise.
* Treat others with respect and kindness. Consequences for ‘bullying’ are in the student handbook. Any gossiping, teasing, bullying, harassing, or other unkind behavior will **NOT** be tolerated.
* **DO NOT CHEAT!** You will receive **an automatic zero and a call home**. If a student completes his/her work and **“shares” it, both will receive zeros!** Anything past the first offense will be subject to a referral to the office. There is a big difference between student collaboration and cheating.

MR. BROWNE’S CLASS RULES: -Have ***respect*** for **yourself** and **others**

-Have **fun!**

-Respect any and all classroom equipment

-Any and all regular school rules apply

-Lab safety rules MUST be followed.

CLASS REWARDS: -Treats

-Games

-Group work

-Extra credit activities

CLASS CONSEQUENCES:

1. Warning
2. Lunch Detention
3. Lunch Detention / Parent Contact
4. Referral to Office

Topics to be covered: Scientific Method, Measurements and Graphing, Sun and Solar System, Glaciers, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Water, Rock cycle, Weather, Water Quality, Resource use, Recycling, Alternative Energy, Thermohaline Circulation, Plate Tectonics

GRADING:

Participation/Employability Skills---10% (100 pts per marking period)

Labs and Projects-----------------------25% **Grades posted** **skyward family access**

Homework-------------------------------25%

Tests and Quizzes-----------------------40%

GRADING SCALE:

100-97% A 79-77%C+

96-93% A 76-73% C

92-90% A- 72-70% C-

89-87% B+ 69-67% D+

86-83% B 66-63% D

82-80% B- 62-60% D-

ABSENCES:

**It is the student’s responsibility to get the missing work**. The weekly assignments/projects are posted on the door. They are also posted on the schools website and many can be downloaded from www.brownescience.weebly.com. Students with excused absences will have the same number of days absent to make up their work. Many assignments will be able to be downloaded from the class website during a student’s absence to help them keep up in class if they so choose. In addition, I will keep a few days’ worth of assignments laid out for students to grab easily. In short, **there aren’t many exceptable reasons for students not knowing about an assignment.**

PASSES:

**NO passes will be given in the first 10 minutes or in the last 10 minutes of class**. Students may not leave without the classroom pass.

LATE WORK:

Turned in the late work tray.

NAME ON WORK:

If students forget their name on their work, quiz, or test, it will be put in the **“NO NAME TRAY”**. The tray will be emptied after each marking period.

WEBSITE: [www.brownescience.weebly.com](http://www.brownescience.weebly.com)

MATERIALS: (To be brought daily)

Current textbook

Duo tang folder

2 Comp books

Planner, or digital device where students can make notes on assignments

**Pencil AND Pen (Only blue or black ink), colored pencils, markers, scissors, scotch tape(several)**

I am looking forward to working with your son/daughter. I believe that communication is very important in education. Please don’t hesitate to contact me. Thank you for the donations if you can provide any.

Sincerely,

Dave Browne

OVMS 8th Grade Science