

*Our Lady of the Assumption School*  
SCIENCE 5<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
CLASS POLICIES



**Science Supplies:** Each student is required to have a 1” binder that will be used **only** for Science. **All** class notes, returned assignments, labs, handouts and homework should be kept in this binder. No papers should be stored in the textbook! ***A student’s parents should be able to see what we are covering and how their child is doing by looking through this binder.*** It is also a useful study aid to have an organized and complete binder.

Students should have an adequate supply of binder paper, a few pieces of graph paper, index cards, colored pencils, regular pencils, blue or black pens, highlighters and a red pen for Science class. Students are expected to come to class prepared. Unless there is an unusual circumstance, they will not be allowed to return to their homeroom.

**Assignments and Grading:** There will be variety of assignments for Science class: study guides, worksheets, book questions, video response papers, logs, binder checks, lab notes and full lab reports. Study guides, worksheets and book questions assigned as homework will be gone over together. Detention will be given if a student does not have completed homework with them when they come to class. This type of homework is not graded. There will also be graded assignments, which will receive a point value and percentage grade.

\* Chapter tests and some quizzes may be corrected and returned the next day for additional points. We will go over class the correcting procedures. These are also posted on the OLA web site. These procedures must be followed to get additional credit.

\* As a general rule there will be **no extra credit assignments** given to improve grades. Students should see me if they need additional help, and put forth consistent effort throughout the trimester. (There are extra credit questions on quizzes and tests)

\* **NO** work will be graded that is illegible, torn, messy, written in margins or with the paper backwards. Work to be handed in must be in blue or black ink only. Spelling and proper grammar are expected in Science class just as in other subjects.

\* The Internet is a tremendous resource, but it must be used as a resource **ONLY**. **NO** work will be graded that is printed from, or restates exactly, the information from an Internet site. School policies on Internet use will be followed.

**Late work and “no name” papers:** There is a folder for each grade to be used for papers that are turned in without identification or late. If a graded assignment is late, it should be put in the “late work” folder. Points will be deducted from a late assignment. (10% each day late). However, it is always better to get an assignment in late rather than not at all. After 5 school days, unless an extension has been given, an assignment will **no longer be accepted**. A student should see me if there is a special circumstance that contributes to an assignment being late.

If an assignment is turned in without a name, it will be corrected and put in the “no name” folder. If a student finds their work in the “no name” folder, they should put their name on the paper and put it in the “paper return” folder. No credit will be given until a paper is identified. (Points will be deducted from the grade for a paper without a name).

**Missed tests/quizzes and work due to absence:** Missed tests and quizzes will be taken the day of the students return to school. If it has been an extended absence, or if the test was assigned while the student was gone, an alternative day may be arranged. (Please check with me.) If a student knows ahead of time they will be gone, they should see me and make arrangements to take the test before they leave. (Per school policy)

**Signed tests and Papers:** As is school policy, papers that receive a score of 70% or below will be sent home for a parent's signature. When a student has a paper to be signed it must be returned the next day. There is a "paper return" folder for each grade. If a paper is not returned signed, detention will be given.

**Progress Reports:** Progress reports will be sent out mid trimester. If a student has 70% or below, or if there is something that needs attention, they will receive a progress report. If there is a situation that needs attention prior to mid trimester progress reports, parents will be contacted. There will be a grade update on most quizzes and tests that will require a parent's signature and be returned to me.

**Classroom Behavior:** A student will receive a detention for inappropriate classroom behavior. It is especially important to maintain good behavior in the Science room for safety reasons. When we have "hands on" activities, safe procedures and respect for the members of your table group must be maintained at all times. It is also important for the students to listen and follow directions. ***Inattention can often lead to missing information and incorrectly done procedures and assignments; often reflected in a student's grade.***

**Textbooks:** Textbooks must be covered with an intact book cover at all times. (Paper or grocery bag covers are preferred. They do a much better job protecting the book. Cloth book covers may be put over the paper cover). Detention will be given if a book is uncovered. The condition of a text is **the student's responsibility**. Lost or damaged books must be replaced.

The majority of the academic information will be in the student text. However, from time to time I will supplement the material with notes, videos, handouts, articles and additional lab activities. The students are responsible for this information as well.

**Additional Help:** The day before a CHAPTER test I will have an optional lunch time review session. This is an opportunity for students to have questions or topics clarified. We always have an in-class review before quizzes or chapter tests.

I am available after school most days and at both recesses for students if there is something they need help with. If students are coming by after school, they should come as soon as class gets out so I don't leave. Students can also make an "appointment" to see me if there is something they are having trouble with. I am always happy to help any student who wants or needs help. Students are encouraged to come see me right away if there is something they are unsure of.

Please see the OLA website Classroom Science pages for copies of papers the students are given, as well as additional information such as study hints and field trip information.

*Feel free to email or call and leave a message, if you have any questions. I will get back to you as soon as possible.*

Thank you,

Mrs. Jones