

“We INSPIRE lifelong learning in a loving secure Catholic Community”

Class Description and Goals

Earth Science (6th)	Life Science (7th)	Physical Science (8th)
Think Like A Scientist Unit		
Inside Earth	From Bacteria to Plants	Chemical Building Blocks
Earth’s Changing Surface	Animals	Chemical Interactions
Earth’s Waters	Cells and Heredity	Motion, Forces, and Energy
Weather and Climate	Human Biology and Health	Electricity and Magnetism
Astronomy	Environmental Science	Sound and Light

The Nature of Science and Technology

Scientific endeavor is formed from the interdependence between science and technology. Students will model the process of scientific investigation through inquiries, fieldwork, lab work, etc.

Scientific Thinking

Students will develop mathematical and logical skills that are essential for a lifetime of learning and to be a well-informed citizen. This will be done through writing in the form of journals, essays, lab reports, procedural summaries, etc.

The Mathematical World

Mathematics plays an important role in science. It involves building and applying the abstract, logically connected networks of ideas.

Patterns in Science

Some important themes pervade in science, mathematics, and technology, and appear over and over again, whether we are looking at ancient civilization, the human body, or a comet. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and prove fruitful in explanation, theory, in observation, and in design. Students will have the opportunities to engage in long-term and on-going laboratory work, and thus understand the role of change over time.

Historical Perspectives

Historical events provide a context for understanding how the scientific enterprise operates. Students will study these events to understand that new ideas are limited by the context in which they are conceived, and are often rejected by the scientific establishment, sometimes spring from unexpected findings, and grow or transform slowly through the contributions of many different investigators.

*Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools Academic Standards for Science

Classroom Rules:

Respect – Includes being responsible, treating each other equally, be silent when expected, be punctual, encouraging, cooperative, tolerant, and have mutual respect toward others.

Attentive Listening – Follow the directions the *first* time they are given. Listen and pay attention while the teacher is talking and do not talk to others while a lesson is being taught.

Save the socializing for lunch and recess.

Appreciation/ No put downs – students have the right to ask questions and to learn during a lesson with no judgment. *Personal attacks, jokes, insulting comments, and disrespectful remarks, as defined by the teacher and school, will not be tolerated and will receive immediate disciplinary action.*

Participation – Students are to pay attention in class and stay on the assigned task until it is complete. Students are expected to add to class discussion with relevant comments or questions, work to their fullest potential and seek help when needed.

Severe Clause -Any student who uses profanity, fights, damages school property (that includes the property of the teacher and other students), or is disrespectful (as defined by the teacher) will receive disciplinary action IMMEDIATELY.

Follow ALL procedures and policies as outlined in the St. Mary of the Mills handbook.

Classroom Expectations and Procedures:

Along with the classroom rules students will be expected to follow these classroom procedures as well.

- Students are to enter the room in a quiet and respectful manner as defined by the teacher. (Don't worry we will practice what my expectations are 😊.)
- Students must be prepared for class both academically and physically.
- Students must bring in ALL books, materials, and assignments to class AND take them with them when they leave.
- Students are to be in assigned seat and working on the "welcome work" when the bell rings unless you arrive with a proper excuse note from another teacher or administrator.
- Students must remain in their seat unless they raise their hand, ask, and *receive* permission from the teacher to leave their seat.
- Students must raise their hand to speak.
- Students must remain silent when others are talking.
- When absent, it is the student's responsibility to obtain missed information.
- Before leaving class, students must clean their work area.
- During fire and other emergency drills, students will follow the teacher's instruction and the procedures posted in the classroom.

Academic Honesty

Cheating will not be tolerated in any form. Students may not share homework answers or test questions with students in their class or in other classes. Students must be silent during testing and are not allowed to use notes, discuss the tests questions, or look on other student's papers.

Students who fail to meet these guidelines will:

- Receive a written warning and documentation through the “guideline infraction notice.”
- Serve lunch and/or recess detention with Mrs. Ruiz.
- Receive a parent phone call or note home, and have to complete an “action plan” with their parent’s.
- Have parent/student/teacher meeting with the principal or vice principal.

Grading

The following grade scale will be used in class:

A	93-100%
B	85-92%
C	77-84%
D	70-77%
F	<69%

Classwork	20%
Homework	10%
Labs & Projects	20%
Quizzes	20%
Tests	30%

Tests & Quizzes

All tests will be announced no less than 4 days in advance, this does not apply to quizzes. All tests will require a signature from parent/guardian and returned to school (1 bonus point added for timely return). For student who miss a test or a quiz an excuse is required and the test/quiz will be made up the following day or on a day specified by the teacher.

Homework/Assignments

Homework is given 3-4 times a week. Homework and assignments are to be passed in on their due dates. If homework and/or assignments is not completed on time students must fill out a “pink-slip” (incomplete assignment slip). Late homework and assignments will be subject to penalties unless a sufficient excuse is presented from student’s parent/guardian. Homework and Assignments not passed in will receive a zero.

Projects

Will be announced when assigned with plenty of notice

Requests to retest or resubmit

I am a firm believer in the idea of the “Growth Mindset” and being able to learn from our mistakes and because of this belief I will allow, in some cases, students retests or resubmitting of assignments. With that being said, being able to resubmit an assignment or retest is a privilege, not a right. In order to be considered for this privilege, students must fill out the request to retest or resubmit application. Please note that not all application will be accepted.

Website & Contact

Please do not hesitate to contact me! Questions, comments, and/or concerns are welcome. If students have any questions or concerns they can speak to me and we will problem solve together. EMAIL is the best way to reach me! If you would like to talk on the phone, email me and I will return with a phone call. Website will be updated weekly.

PLEASE PRINT AS NEATLY AS POSSIBLE

Student Name

Home Phone #

Parent/Guardian Name #1

E-mail address

Work #

Cell #

Parent/Guardian Name #2

E-mail address

Work #

Cell

**Please put a star next to the best way(s) to reach a parent/guardian during the school day.*

Is there a computer available at home?

Are you able to log-on to the Internet?

YES NO

YES NO

Do you give permission for your child's picture (with no name) to be used on the class website?

YES NO

Is there anything that would be helpful for me to know?

I have read this syllabus with my son/daughter and we have discussed and understand all of the policies and procedures.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

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