

Sixth Grade

6th Grade SOCIAL STUDIES

Teacher: Mrs. Hrabsky (shrbsky@yahoo.com)

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 refocus 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
- Refocus questions **ANSWERED IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**
- Worksheet for each lesson in the chapter
- Classroom Notes
- Vocabulary Quiz
- Chapter Review **ANSWERED IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**

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

Study Guides To prepare for chapter test, students will complete a study guide consisting of approximately 20 questions. Each question is directly related to the chapter test. Answers must be written out neatly or typed in COMPLETE SENTENCES. Study guides are taken as a quiz grade.

Quizzes/Test: Vocabulary quizzes and tests are given for each chapter. Tests are announced at least one week in advance. Students are expected to spell vocabulary correctly on quizzes and tests.

Outside Projects: An outside project will be due for most chapters. Projects are usually related to "skills" sections of the chapter. Projects might include creating time-lines, maps, or collages.

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 (kmherrmann@comcast.net)

Text: *New Progress in Mathematics*

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 (kmherrmann@comcast.net)

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.

DOL: In addition to the English text and workbook, *Daily Oral Language* sheets are utilized on a daily basis; these exercises help students to review punctuation, capitalization, and usage skills through practice and reinforcement. DOLs are distributed on Friday and various boxes are assigned each night.

Spelling: Spelling packets are distributed on Monday and collected on Friday. Quizzes are given on Friday.

Writing Assignments: Various writing assignments (descriptive, expository, narrative and persuasive essays, creative writing, and a research paper) 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 after the completion of each chapter. At least one week's notice is always given for upcoming tests.

6th 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 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.

6th Grade RELIGION

Teacher: Mrs. Hrabsky

Text: *Christ Our Life* – Loyola Press

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

Assessment – 25% - Homework, 30%- Quizzes, 45%-Test/Portfolio

Portfolio - Students are expected to keep a portfolio for all religion work. Definitions, prayers, and bible stories will be kept in the portfolios. Portfolios will only be collected at the end of a **unit, approximately once each marking period**, and will count as a test grade

Prayer Quizzes – Students are expected to memorize various prayers throughout the year. We will recite these prayers in school for several weeks before students are quizzed on them. All prayers can be found on the inside cover of the religion book.

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

On Fridays, students will have two religion classes. Immediately following Mass, the 6th grade will have a short 15-20 minute religion class where we will learn to pray the rosary or focus on a specific saint or feast day. We will then have our regular religion class in the afternoon.

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 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
stfitlab@cs.com

6th Grade Spanish:

Teacher: Mrs. Seav (sasmls2@verizon.net)

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" soft-sided 3 ring binder
Package of 5 pocket folders
Supply of 3 X 5 index cards
3X5 card box
Loose-leaf paper
Spanish/English Dictionary (Larousse or Vox)

Assessment:

Homework	25%
Classwork/Participation	25%
Dictation	15%
Quizzes/Tests	35%

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. Cathell

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 SCIENCE

Teacher: Mrs. Malinowski

Text: Earth Science by Glencoe

Assessment: 15% homework and Portfolios, 15% labs and class work, 30% quizzes, 40% Tests and Projects.

Class-work: Classroom activity will vary and will include projects, writing, reading, discussion, note taking, working in groups and engaging in scientific experiment.

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.

Students have a variety of methods to identify homework assignments. Homework assignments are announced in class, written on the white board, listed on a power point slide at the beginning of class and often available on the St. Francis Website.

Quizzes, Tests and Projects: Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a one-week 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 section, but will generally include

Chapter Title Page containing student name and title. The Title Page should be enhanced with some graphics detailing the chapter topic.

Vocabulary

Section assessments as assigned by teacher

Class notes

Additional worksheets and handouts

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

Answers are to be written neatly in ink IN COMPLETE SENTENCES!

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

Health Grade

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

Seventh Grade

7th Grade RELIGION:

Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann (kmherrmann@comcast.net)

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 a test grade. If students are absent, it is their responsibility to make sure their journal entries are up-to-date.

Scripture: Bible Trivia packets are distributed bi-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.

Prayer Quizzes: Students are expected to memorize various prayers throughout the year. We will be reciting these prayers in school for several weeks before they are quizzed on them. All prayers can be found in the inside cover of the religion book.

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 (shrabsky@yahoo.com)

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.

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.

7th Grade On grade level MATH:

Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann (kmherrmann@comcast.net)

Text: *New Progress in Mathematics*

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.

7th Grade Spanish:

Teacher: Mrs. Seay (sasmls2@verizon.net)

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; soft-sided 3-ring binder
Package of 5 pocket folders
Supply of 3X5 index cards
3X5 card box
Loose-leaf paper
Textbook with brown-paper cover
Spanish/English Dictionary (Larousse or Vox)

Grading:

Class participation/Dictations	10%
Homework/Classwork	25%
Quizzes/Reports	30%
Tests	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.

“Give your mind a chance to travel through foreign languages.”

Neil Simon

7th Grade Literature:

Teacher: Mrs. Costanzo (kgc324@yahoo.com)

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:
 - Novel Notes
 - Novel Vocabulary
 - Drama Notes
 - 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 Notes:

- These should be in a separate marble composition book, not used for any other subject. Students should copy any English notes that are on the board at the beginning of class.

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.
- Students should bring their English books or notes home **every** day to study and review what we've covered in class.

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
stfitlab@cs.com

7th Grade ART:

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.**

7th Grade LIFE SCIENCE:

Teacher: Mrs. Malinowski

Text: Glencoe LIFE SCIENCE (green)

Assessment: 15% homework and Portfolios, 15% labs and class work, 30% quizzes, 40% 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.

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.

Students have a variety of methods to identify homework assignments. Homework assignments are announced in class, written on the white board, listed on a power point slide at the beginning of class and often available on the St. Francis Website.

Quizzes, Tests and Projects: Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a one-week 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 section, but will generally include

Chapter Title Page containing student name and title. The Title Page should be enhanced with some graphics detailing the chapter topic.

Vocabulary

Section assessments as assigned by teacher

Class notes

Additional worksheets and handouts

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

Answers are to be written neatly in ink IN COMPLETE SENTENCES!

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

Health Grade

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

7th grade American History

Teacher: Mrs. Noble (smnrwn@comcast.net)

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

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

Class-work: Classroom activities will include note-taking, cooperative learning, discussion and review of supplementary material.

Homework: Homework is related to class work and will reinforce concepts learned in class.

Quizzes and tests: Quizzes will be announced. The student may have a classroom exercise that will be worth a quiz score. All materials and resources for the exercise will be available during class but the exercise may not necessarily be announced. The student will have a one week notice for a test.

Portfolios: Students maintain a 3-ring binder for history that is organized with subject dividers for vocabulary and spelling, class notes, homework, quizzes, and study guide worksheets. At the end of each chapter, the contents of the binders should be stapled together with a cover sheet and collected for a quiz grade. Portfolios are due the day of a chapter test.

Eighth Grade

8th Grade RELIGION:

Teacher: Mrs. Herrmann (kmherrmann@comcast.net)

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 a test grade. If students are absent, it is their responsibility to make sure their journal entries are up-to-date.

Scripture: Bible Trivia packets are distributed bi-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.

Prayer Quizzes: Students are expected to memorize various prayers throughout the year. We will be reciting these prayers in school for several weeks before they are quizzed on them. All prayers can be found in the inside cover of the religion book.

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.

Confirmation Service Hours: Please remind your child that service hours (ten church/ten community) will be due on October 14. If they have already completed the hours, please encourage them to turn in the green sheets. Service opportunities are printed periodically in the Sunday bulletin. If you need suggestions, just ask!

8th Grade SPANISH:

Teacher: Mrs. Seay (sasmls2@verizon.net)

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 soft-sided 3-ring binder
Package of 5 pocket folders
Supply of 3X5 index cards
3X5 card box
Loose-leaf paper
Textbook with cover
Spanish/English Dictionary (Larousse or Vox)

Grading:

Class participation/Dictation	15%
Homework/Classwork	20%
Quizzes/Reports	30%
Chapter tests and 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.

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

8th GRADE PRE-ALGEBRA

Teacher: Mrs. Hrabsky (shrabsky@yahoo.com)

Web page: www.pre-alg.com

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.

Chapter Review: A day or two before a chapter test, students will complete the chapter review. Students are encouraged to review their work with a parent or adult. The chapter review will count as a quiz grade.

Extra Credit: On-line quizzes and standardized test – A day or two before a chapter test student may take an on-line quiz or test. Students are to work out problems on loose leaf as they complete the test. Once they have completed the test, students e-mail their test results to the teacher (Shrabsky@yahoo.com). To earn maximum credit students must hand in their work to the teacher the next day.

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.

ALGEBRA I

Teacher: Mrs. Weindelmayer

Class Requirements:

- To come to class with all supplies, book, paper, pencil, red pen, calculator, ruler
- Completion of daily homework assignments (@30 - 40 minutes).
- All quizzes and tests are to be signed and returned to class the next day.
- Full participation in class.
- If absent, it is the **student's** responsibility to call for and complete the homework.

Math Journal Assignments (Incorporated into homework grade):

- To maintain basic skills.
- To provide preparation for Standardized Tests.
- To reinforce terminology presented in the chapter.
- To develop critical thinking skills.
- To provide enrichment and practical application of skills.

Grade determined by the following:

10% Homework	35% Quizzes
10% Classwork	45% Tests

Quizzes are given weekly; tests after each chapter; cumulative tests after every other chapter. Interims are distributed to all students to keep you informed of their grades.

Assistance for students:

Students may come for additional help or to make up missed quizzes or tests on a daily basis after Algebra class from 7:30 – 8:15 AM and/or 11:00 to 11:40 AM. It is important for students to be in class and to keep absences at a minimum. The success of each student is very important and I will make every effort to ensure that each one will excel in this class.

My commitment is not only to present and teach each lesson thoroughly, but also to encourage them to believe that if they put forth their best effort, that they will be able to do all things through Christ who strengthens them. (Phil. 4:13)

Please feel free to contact me at school 703.221.3868 or e-mail at gweindel@access4less.net. If I am unable to take your call immediately, I will return it as soon as possible. Thank you for your support, and for encouraging your child to do his/her very best. To God be the glory!

My Prayer: That each student will show aptitude for every kind of learning, be well informed, quick to understand; that they may be found to have a keen mind, knowledge, understanding, and the ability to solve difficult problems. (Daniel 1:4, 2:14, 5:12)

If you or your child need to contact me after school, my home e- mail is: fweind@access4less.net and my home phone # is 540-286-0355.

8th Grade Literature:

Teacher: Mrs. Costanzo (kgc324@yahoo.com)

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 (kgc324@yahoo.com)

Assessment:

Homework – 25%

Classwork - 25%

Tests/Projects – 50%

English Notes:

- These should be in a separate marble composition book. Students should copy any English notes that are on the board at the beginning of class into this composition book.

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.
- Students should bring their English books or notes home **every** day to study and review what we've covered in class.

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.

IT Program
Veronica Newger
stfitlab@cs.com

8th Grade ART:
Teacher: Mrs. Cathell

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.**

8th grade American History:

Teacher: Mrs. Noble (smnrwn@comcast.net)

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

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

Class-work: In preparation for high school, we will rely heavily on cooperative learning and group projects to learn material.

Homework: Homework is related to class work and will reinforce concepts learned in class. Students should spend some time every night reviewing the text and notes taken in class.

Quizzes and tests: Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a one week notice for a test.

Portfolios: Students maintain a 3-ring binder for history that is organized with subject dividers for vocabulary and spelling, class notes, homework, quizzes, and study guide worksheets. At the end of each chapter, the contents of the binders should be stapled together with a cover sheet and collected for a quiz grade. Portfolios are due the day of the chapter test.

8th Grade SCIENCE:

Teacher: Mrs. Malinowski

Text: Glencoe Introduction to Physical Science (Blue)

Assessment: 15% homework and Portfolios, 15% labs and class work, 30% quizzes, 40% 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.

Students have a variety of methods to identify homework assignments. Homework assignments are announced in class, written on the white board, listed on a power point slide at the beginning of class and often available on the St. Francis Website.

Quizzes and tests: Quizzes will be announced. The student will have a one week 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. The Title Page should be enhanced with some graphics detailing the chapter topic.

Vocabulary

Section assessments as assigned by teacher

Class notes

Additional worksheets and handouts

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

Answers are to be written neatly in ink IN COMPLETE SENTENCES!

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

On-line assignments:

On line assignments are sent to the teacher via the textbook web site or are to be printed out and turned in. If there are difficulties with Internet access at home, the student must get a note from the parent explaining why the assignment was not completed.

Health Grade:

A Health grade is assigned each term and is part of the Science grade. This grade is given by Mrs. Joy and counts as a quiz grade. The State of Virginia requires Health and Physical Education as a basic part of the school curriculum. The following list covers those points that are significant to you and your child for this school year.

Physical Education Grade:

Grading: Students will receive a grade based on physically participating in physical education, following class rules and being in the proper uniform. If behavior interferes with participation, points will be deducted from the grade. All students begin each 9 weeks with 100 participation points (50 points for interim). Grading adjustments for participation in physical education are as follows:

Student is not in the correct uniform (uniform warning)	Minus 5
Student does not participate	minus 5
Improper class behavior	Minus 5
Conduct warning	minus 10 points

We do realize there are times when an illness or injury may restrict active participation in physical education. On those special occasions when you feel your child should not participate, please send a signed note with a daytime phone number where you can be

reached if we have questions. This note is only good for one day. **This applies to all students**

Students excused from participation will be given an alternate assignment, as we cannot grade an injured student on their active participation in physical activity. This is not meant as a punishment. Students will be permitted to return to activity when the doctor or parent releases them or the doctor's note has expired.

Students who do not attend Hemlock Overlook will be required to do a paper regarding team work and cooperation, the skills learned at Hemlock Overlook.

- 1 93-100
- 2 85-92
- 3 77-84
- 4 70-76
- 5 Below 70