

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back from summer! I hope everyone accomplished something they wanted to do, relaxed a bit, or otherwise enjoyed summer. As first trimester begins, I would like to share some information about 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science to help make this a successful year for your student.

**What will we study?** Recently, Eugene School District 4J adopted a new Science curriculum for all of its middle schools. Each year in middle school, your student will have Science all year and participate in units about Chemistry, Earth Science, Life Science, and Physics. If your student was in 4J last year, this year will build on last year's curriculum. Below is a very brief diagram showing this year's unit sequence. The sequence diagram for all three years of Science is posted on the class website.

Level 2 (7 <sup>th</sup> grade) IQWST UNITS			
<b>Intro to Chemistry</b>	<b>Physical Science</b>	<b>Earth Science</b>	<b>Life Science</b>
<i>How Can I Make New Stuff From Old Stuff?</i>	<i>Why Do Some Things Stop and Others Keep Going?</i>	<i>What Makes the Weather Change?</i>	<i>What is Going on Inside Me?</i>
Chemical Reactions, Conservation of Matter	Transformation and Conservation of Energy	Atmospheric Processes in Weather and Climate	Body Systems and Cellular processes

**Supplies** – Students are expected to come to class each day with: their agenda planner, a pencil, their Science Notebook (SN), and their iPad containing enough charge to last the period.

### Assignments and Homework

- Students will be given a few minutes at the beginning of each class to record the day's class work (CW) and homework (HW) assignments in their agenda. This information is also available on the class web site, which can be accessed through the Cal Young homepage and should already be bookmarked on your student's iPad. The most current information however, will always be in your student's agenda planner.
- Missing class often means that a student will need to work in the classroom to complete assignments either before or after school. Office hours are posted on the class website.
- During each unit, students will be given a Science Notebook (SN) that contains worksheets, space for notes and *all homework readings*. Class work can usually be completed during class time, but occasionally your student may need to bring their SN or iPad home to complete assignments. Class time is structured so that students who use their time efficiently may not have much homework.

**Late Work Policy** - To encourage students to turn in their work on time:

- Assignments must be completed and turned in on time to earn full credit
- Late assignments will be worth 75% of the points earned
- To allow us to meet grading deadlines, there will be periodic cut-off dates for late work. These are listed on the class website. After a cut-off date, no work from before that date will be accepted.

**Grading Guidelines** - YOU earn your grade! You earn points for daily work (60% of your grade) and assessments (40% of your grade). The grading scale is a percentage scale based on points earned compared to the total number of points possible. Grading rubrics are posted on the class website so you can see how your student earned their grade for different types of assignments. Grades are updated online through StudentVue every 2-4 weeks.

Grading Scale: A = 90 – 100%    B = 80 – 89%    C = 70 – 79 %    D = 60 – 69 %    F = 0 – 59%

**Class Expectations** - Class expectations revolve around good manners and respect. To make the most efficient use of instructional time, routines and expectations for various classroom activities will be explicitly taught. Please see the attached safety letter regarding expectations for lab activities.

**Contacting Me** - Feel free to send a note, call, e-mail, or stop by if you have any questions. The best times to call are from 8:00 - 8:30 in the morning and from 3:40 - 4:00 in the afternoon. I try to respond to all emails within 24 hours during the workweek. If you email me, please include all of the following information: your name, your student's name, and your relationship to the student. I do not reply to emails that do not include this information.

I will send out periodic updates via email regarding due dates, quizzes, or small projects. The only email addresses used for parent/guardian communication are those you provided to the front office during registration. If you need to add or change your contact email, please notify Genessa in the front office.

Thanks for supporting your student in Science,

Scott Baker  
7th Grade Science  
[baker\\_sc@4j.lane.edu](mailto:baker_sc@4j.lane.edu)



Please read the letter and discuss it with your student.  
Sign below and have your student bring the entire letter back to class by the due date.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

## **SCIENCE SAFETY LETTER 2018-19**

Middle school science consists of engaging topics for students to investigate. However, any science activity may have potential safety issues if not conducted properly. Safety in the science classroom is an important part of the scientific process. To ensure a safe learning environment, a list of rules has been developed and discussed with all students because science rules must be followed at all times. Additional safety instructions will be given for each activity. Please discuss the safety rules with your child and return the bottom of this letter.

### **LAB SAFETY RULES**

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the science classroom.
2. Follow instructions carefully. Ask questions if you do not understand the instructions.
3. Use equipment only as directed by the teacher or the instructions for that activity.
4. Perform only approved experiments.
5. Never eat, drink, chew gum, or taste anything in the science classroom unless directed to by the teacher.
6. Keep hands away from your face, eyes, and mouth while using science materials. Wash your hands with soap and water before leaving the science classroom.
7. Wear safety goggles when instructed. Never remove safety goggles during an experiment. There are no exceptions to this rule!
8. Keep your work area and the science room neat and clean.
9. Clean all work areas and equipment at the end of the experiment, and properly dispose any waste materials.
10. Report any accident (fire, spill, breakage, etc.) injury (cut, burn, etc.), or hazardous condition (broken equipment, etc.) to the teacher immediately.
14. Always carry a microscope with both hands. Hold the arm with one hand; and the other hand under the base.

### **AGREEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) have read and understand each of the above safety rules listed above. I agree to follow them to ensure not only my own safety, but also the safety of my classmates and others in the science classroom. I also agree to follow the general rules of appropriate behavior for the classroom and school at all times to prevent accidents and to provide a safe learning environment for everyone. I understand that if I do not follow all of the rules and safety precautions, I may be asked to not participate in the activity or be asked to leave the classroom.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ***SCIENCE SAFETY LETTER 2018-19***

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians:

Science Safety Rules are provided to keep you informed of the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom environment for all students.

Your signature on this letter indicates that you have read the Science Safety Rules, have reviewed them with your student, and are aware of the measures taken to create and maintain a safe learning environment for your student in the science classroom.

Please sign below and have your student return this document by \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Important question – Does your student have any health issues or allergies that you have not already provided information on to the school? If yes, please list them below.