

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Mrs. Caruso

Welcome! I am looking forward to a fun and exciting 6<sup>th</sup> grade year with your child. This is an overview of your child's Science class. I have included some important information to help you understand how your child will be evaluated and what is expected of them in my class. If you have any questions you can email me at [Nicole.caruso@fresnounified.org](mailto:Nicole.caruso@fresnounified.org)

### **Check out my class website!!!!**

<http://carusosclass.weebly.com>

I post reminders and links to extra copies of assignments. It is a great tool for accessing important links and information.

**Make sure you sign up for Remind.** I use this app to send out nightly reminders as well as communicate with parents through the chat function of the app. There is a document on my website that can help you sign up.

### **Curriculum**

We will be covering a variety of topics in Science that align with the new NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards), we will be covering energy, weather & climate, Global Warming and Body Systems. I normally teach with a lot of hands on activities but with distance learning in place, this will be a challenge. I have sent home a lab kit that will allow us to do some of the hands on activities I normally do but there will be a lot more demos this year due to lack of materials for 160 students.

### **Communication**

I believe communication is important between the teacher and parent. I prefer to communicate through email. I check it a hundred times a day and throughout the evening. I respond within 24 hours (usually much sooner). You can also use the chat feature on Remind to contact me as well. Students should use TEAMS Chat to communicate with me or email. Please make sure you are getting the Monday email from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team. If you are not, please contact me with your updated email address so I can add you to the list.

### **Grading**

**Your child will be evaluated based on the standards taught in class. Grades are calculated using a 4 point rubric. Your Child will receive a rubric with each lab and project. This will give detailed information about the requirements for each score. Please talk to your child about their grade BEFORE contacting me. Most of the time they can explain to you why they received that grade. Students have opportunities to improve grades on labs and CFUs if they are lower than a 3.**

#### **Grades are divided into weighted categories:**

CFU's 10%  
Tests/Quizzes 35%  
Labs/Projects 40%  
Other assignments 15%

#### **4 Point Rubric Grade Breakdown**

**4** Exceeds Standards A = 100% - 87.5%  
**3** Meets Standards B = 87.49% - 62.5 %  
**2** Approaching Standards C = 62.49% - 37.5 %  
**1** Not Yet Approaching Standards D = 37.49% - 12.5 %  
**0** No Attempt at Standards F = 12.49% - 0 %

## Important Homework Facts

- Your child **should not** have more than 30-45 min. of Science homework on a regular basis. Assignments are started in class and if your child does not finish, it will result in homework. Assignments will be due the next class period. Occasionally a project will be assigned for Homework and may take longer to complete. Please make sure your child is not procrastinating and use REMIND announcements to physically check that your child has completed their work.
- AST is a great time for your child to ask any questions about the homework. Since their homework is due every other day, your child should **start it the night it is assigned** so they can ask for help the day before it is due. AST is Wednesdays/Fridays 8-9 am
- **Late Work:** I will take late work up to 2 weeks after the due date. A score of 4 will not be an option for late work. No late work will be accepted after 2 weeks of its due date.
- **Labs that receive a 1 or 2 can be redone for a higher score (3 max score), if it is redone correctly!** Students can attend Explorer Time to get help with lab redos
- **Absent:** If your child is absent they can check TEAMS files for a recording of the live class session that they missed. This way they can complete the work they missed. They can also come to AST and/or Explorer Time for help.

## Important Tests/Quizzes Facts

- There will be a **unit test at the end of each unit. There will be quizzes throughout the unit to check for understanding.** Students will be expected to study for those tests and quizzes using a study guide that will be given. No retakes are available.
- Practice Tests for the Unit Tests will be available online for students who want to use it to help them study.
- **CFU's** are ways for me to check for understanding on a daily basis. Students will receive a score out of 4 on those and they can redo them during explorer time or AST to improve their grade.

## Other Important Reminders

6<sup>th</sup> Grade camp is TBD right now. Since we do not go until May we are hopeful that things will get better and we can go but right now it is just too hard to tell. Stay tuned for more information!