**6th Grade Science Room- 2204**

 **Ms. Hawks–** **ahawks@wcpss.net** **WELCOME!**

Hello!

Welcome to an exciting new school year! I am looking forward to a successful school year with all of you. I hold onto the belief that all students can achieve and be successful. In addition, I believe that students achieve more when held to high standards and kept on a rigorous schedule. To that end, I will challenge students to not only learn the material, but also start developing critical thinking skills and to work to their highest potential. I also know that many students enjoy the hands-on aspects of science, and I will try to incorporate as many laboratory experiments as possible into the curriculum.

We will explore a great deal of material this year in science. We will learn the curriculum through lecture, notes, classroom activities, hands-on labs, in class projects, as well as out of class work and projects. This year the curriculum will focus on the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Introduction & Safety, Scientific Process** |
| **2** | **What’s the Matter?*** Understand the structure, classifications and physical properties of matter
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| **3** | **Catch a Wave*** Students will be able to understand the properties of waves and the wavelike property of energy in earthquakes, light and sound waves.
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| **4** | **The Land Beneath Our Feet*** Students will be able to understand the structure of Earth and how interactions of constructive and destructive forces have resulted in changes in the surface of Earth over time and the effects of the lithosphere on humans.
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| **5** | **Space Invaders*** **Understand the earth/moon/sun system, and the properties, structures and predictable motions of celestial bodies in the Universe.**
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| **6** | **Growing and Flowing*** **Understand the structures, processes and behaviors of plants that enable them to survive and reproduce.**
* **Understand the flow of energy through ecosystems and the responses of populations to the biotic and abiotic factors in their environment.**
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**\*\***Please note that due to time constraints and the needs of students, adjustments may need to be made through the year.

**What you Need**

You need your agenda, science notebook (1 composition notebook), and pencil **every day**. I have a class set of textbooks, so students will not need to check out their own science book.

**Grading Scale**

Grading will be done on a weighted scale. Below is a breakdown of how grades will be weighted.

**Assessments, Projects, Labs = 70%
Participation/Class work (Including Notebook) = 20%
Homework = 10%**

The grading scale for this class is as follows:
 **A = 100-93 B = 92-85 C = 84-77 D = 76-70 F= Below 70**

**Assignments**

Assignments will be given out on a regular basis. On days that students do not have an assignment, they will be asked to review their notes, study, etc... In order to ensure the effectiveness of this class and the success of each student, each student is required to complete EVERY assignment that is given, and have it ready to be evaluated at the beginning of the class period that it is due.

**Late Work Policy**

1 day Late = -20 points 2 days late = -30 points 3 days points = -40 points 4 days late = NHI (50)

**Notebooks**

All notes and assignments should be kept neatly in a composition notebook. Items in the notebook should be kept neat and organized at all times. Students will need to secure all items in the notebook with glue. Your teacher will show you how to set up your notebook.

**When Absent**

When a student is absent, it is the student’s responsibility to obtain any missing work as directed by the teacher (i.e. missing work binder, tub, etc...).

**Classroom Expectations**

***Respect Yourself and Others***

* Respond appropriately to adults
* Treat others and their property appropriately
* Be an active learner
* Keep your hands and feet to yourself
* Use appropriate and positive language

***Own Your Actions***

* Have all assignments on due date
* Use agenda to keep track of assignments
* Keep track of your belongings

***Apply Positive Leadership***

* Arrive to class on time with materials
* Enter quietly and follow classroom procedures
* Have an encouraging attitude

***Respect Our School***

* Use supplies wisely
* Respect classroom property

**Class Website**

To access our class website, please log onto <http://ligon.wcpss.net> . Click on the staff link and find your teachers name under the 6th grade team. From here you can select the website link.

**Student Contact with Teacher**

Students will have a Wake County issued email address. Any contact between a student and teacher must be done **ONLY** through this email address.

**Ms. Hawks’ Classroom Routines & Procedures**

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In order to ensure that things run smoothly and efficiently in class, all students in Ms. Hawks’ class will be expected to learn the following routines and procedures.

1. **Entering the classroom**: As soon as you enter the classroom, please find your seat and begin on the daily warm-up activity (Bellwork). Your Bellwork may include copying down your assignment in your agenda, answering a review question from the previous day’s events, getting out needed materials, etc… Please avoid getting out of your seat to roam the room and talking loudly to your classmates.
2. **Getting the teacher’s attention in class:** If you need to ask a question, want to answer a question, or need assistance in any way, please raise your hand.
3. **Turning in assignments:** Students will be directed by the teacher to get their assignment out and place it on their desk. The teacher will collect the assignment by walking up each row and collecting it while students complete their Bellwork.
4. **Sharpening pencils in class:**Please sharpen pencils before the bell rings. Once class starts there will not be time to get up to do so. Consider keeping extra pencils in your pencil pouch in your binder or purchasing a hand held pencil sharpener to keep with you.
5. **Late homework assignments, class work, or projects:** Every student in Ms. Hawks’ class is expected to turn in all homework, class work, projects, etc… on the due date. To turn in late work, students must fill out a “Late Work Explanation” form, staple it to the FRONT of the assignment, and turn it into the period folder located in the crate at the front of the classroom.
6. **Making up work after an absence:** If you have been absent from class when a major project or test was given or due, you will be expected to take or turn it in on the day you return to class. Within the classroom, there is a makeup binder (*“While you were Out”*). You may also check my blackboard site by logging into the Ligon website. When you return to school, please check the notebook to see what assignment(s) you missed. **YOU** are responsible for getting assignments out of this binder. Students will have one day to make up work for each day absent for absences of 1-3 days. Students have 2 days for each day absent to make up work if absences exceed 3 days.
7. **Using the bathroom, getting a drink, or going to your locker during class:** Because time is precious, students will have limited opportunity to use the bathroom, get a drink, or go to their lockers during class time. Please plan your time between classes wisely.

![MC900364088[1]]()![MC900364088[1]]()**Science Safety Contract**

*Lab safety is always a priority. It order to ensure a safe year in science, the following general rules have been developed. Students will not be permitted to perform science activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian, and is on file with the teacher. This contract is important to provide a safe learning environment for everyone.*

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner ***at all times***. Avoid horseplay, running, and inappropriate behavior. These behaviors can lead to dismissal from the lab and classroom. Stay on task and work in your assigned group.
2. For your own personal safety, avoid eating, drinking, chewing gum and tasting anything in the science classroom. Avoid smelling things by putting your nose close to the container.
3. Any accident (spill, breakage, injury, cut or burn) or hazardous condition (broken equipment, etc.) should be reported to the teacher immediately regardless of how minor.
4. Wear the required safety goggles/lab aprons/ gloves deemed appropriate for labs. Various labs have different safety requirements. For example, you need to wear safety gear when you are working with chemicals, heat, glass, or any substance that might get into your eyes or onto your clothing. Safety goggles need to cover your eyes during the entire lab activity (no exceptions).
5. Perform activities using approved materials and equipment that are authorized by your teacher.
6. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. Ask your teacher about anything you don’t understand.
7. Avoid touching lab equipment, lab supplies/materials, plants/animals in the room unless instructed to do so.
8. Avoid entering storage cabinets, prep/storage rooms without permission from the teacher. Keep all lab materials, equipment, and supplies in the science room.
9. After the experiment has been completed, clean up your work area and return all equipment to its proper place. When appropriate, wash your hands after working in the lab.

**Ms. Hawks’ Classroom Expectations, Routines & Procedures Agreement Form**

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I have **read and agree** to follow Ms. Hawks’ “*Classroom Expectations*” & “*Routines and Procedures”* for this class.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I am aware of the classroom expectations, routines and procedures for Ms. Hawks’ science class, and **I will hold my child accountable for following them**.

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Technology Survey**

In order to provide the best opportunities for each student, I am surveying my classes to see who has regular access to a computer and internet. This will help me in planning activities for the remainder of the school year.

\_\_\_\_\_ Our household **DOES** have a computer that my student can access on a regular basis.

\_\_\_\_\_ Our household **DOES NOT** have a computer that my student can access on a regular basis.

 Is there somewhere that your student could access a computer regularly? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_Our household **DOES** have internet that my student can access on a regular basis.

\_\_\_\_\_Our household **DOES NOT** have internet that my student can access on a regular basis.

 Is there somewhere that your student could access internet regularly? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Safety Contract**

I have read the above rules, understand them, and agree to abide by them. I also understand that this is a general set of rules. When appropriate, additional specific safety instructions may be given for labs throughout the year. **If your child has allergies, please note them on the bottom of this sheet.**

(Student)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_