Course Outline

WEBSITE ADDRESS:

http://science7ess.weebly.com/

Note that there is ABSOLUTELY NO USE OF THE “WWW” IN THIS WEBSITE!!!!!!

Go to the website tonight, and BOOKMARK IT on your computer, as this is how I will communicate with the class – this is where I will inform parents of upcoming tests, assignments and so on!!!!

DO THIS NOW!!!!

What is located there?

-Course outline (in detail)

-Videos and other related links

**-“video lessons” that review materials covered in class**.

-Assignments

-Downloads

-Blog

-Contact me

Section 1
Ecosystems (September- November)

-Introductions (September)
-Science methods (experiments, lab safety, classroom expectations, and so on)
-Organisms and their environments
-Cycles (food chains, food webs, water cycle)
-Ecosystems and us (human impacts, conservation and protection)

Section 2
Chemistry (November - March)
-Characteristics and properties of matter (describe, measure, changes in matter)
-Classifying (pure substances, mixtures)
-Solutions (solutes and solvents, dissolving, acids and bases)

Section 3
Earth Sciences (March - June)
-Planet Earth (structure, minerals, the formation of rocks)
-The moving crust (weathering and the rock cycle, plate tectonics)
-The changing surface of planet Earth (landforms, earthquakes, volcanoes

Marking Outline

The school year is divided into 4 terms, each one of approximately equal class time and 'weight'. Each term will be worth approximately 25% of the year's mark in Science 7.

*There will be no "final exam" at the end of the course*.

Marks will be earned through experiments, workbook activities, questions, tests, projects, group work, individual work, and various other class activities. Assessments will be adapted as appropriate for the individual student.

All work that is handed in will be expected to be:
1. Done using full sentences (subject, predicate, capital, period/punctuation).
2. Legible (I can read it, line discipline, pen (blue/black), paper not torn out of binders, etc.

**If work is not appropriate for a grade 7 student, it will be returned with a requirement for improvement.**

Students will have the opportunity (expectation really) for most of the labs and assignments to make improvements to their work and then re-submit them for additional credit (as these activities are 'formative' in nature).

Some students will have the class materials (and presentation of the material) adapted in an effort to support their access to the curriculum. Most of the time, those adaptations will be noted. They could take the form of reductions in the number of questions, alternate assignments, changes to the mode of presentation, time lines for the completion of assignments and tests, and so on.

Homework

It is my sincere hope that homework will be a very rare occurrence in Science 7. Homework will be assigned as follows:
1.    The watching of a program,
2.    The reading of some online materials outside of class time,
3.    Work relating to materials off this website,
4.    When your child has not finished classwork in the time allotted,
5.    When your child has been absent from class,
6.    A home-based ('kitchen') experiment,
7.    The re-doing/improvement of assignments,
8.    Some other independent activity.

Learning help

There are a potentially endless list of places a student can go to get help for this course.
1.    From the teacher (after school, or possibly at lunchtime).
2.    Learning Assistance during a scheduled L.A. block, or 'drop in' after school.
3.    Online:
    -[LearnNowBC](http://www.learnnowbc.ca/default.aspx) at http://www.learnnowbc.ca/default.aspx (go to the 'study centre')

Student Expectations

All of the District policies are in force - from cell phones (off in class) and mp3 players (off in class, while there is a lesson being presented, at other times it is up to teacher discretion), to discipline matters. In general, every student has the right to learn in an environment that is safe and free from distractions, and every student has a responsibility to respect the rights of others in class to a learning environment free from danger and distraction.

Every student has the right to ask questions of the teacher in a manner that is respectful and  mature. I shall endeavor to give every student the time they need to understand the material being presented, and to explain my marking plans (and to reconsider marks assigned to the student).

Take notes as neatly as possible.

Keep your binder organized in a chronological manner.

1. Be ready to start when the ‘bell’ goes.

2. ‘Prepared’ for work means that you have a proper notebook, pencil/pen, textbook, and workbook EVERY period.

3. Hands up, take turns, allow others to ask/answer un-interrupted.

4. Question? Ask.

5. You are not learning if you aren’t making a mistake. Don’t be afraid to ‘risk it’.

6. Use the website to review lessons all the time!

7. Get help from me right away – after school on the same day as the lesson is best!