

Welcome to 8th Grade SCIENCE

with Mrs. Clow

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Room # 114

Let's begin with, I am really looking forward to an exciting year in science!

Why do you need to learn about science? Science is a tool for exploring and explaining the world around us. It gives us a way to find answers to our questions in our everyday lives. Believe it or not there is a network of rules and relationships that determine what will happen in any given situation that are directly linked to science.

Even if science isn't 'your thing', you can do well in this class and have fun at the same time.

“I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand”

- Chinese Proverb

How/What will we learn?

This physical science class has been aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) which have been adopted by the State of Michigan. In this class, you will use a variety of technologies, higher order thinking skills, and inquiry based investigations to understand the interactions and workings of physical science. By gaining an understanding of these concepts you will be able to develop informed opinions on ethical issues related to science.

Our topics we will cover this year include:



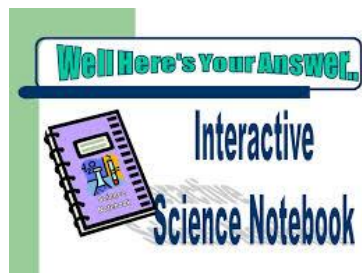
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kinetic - Potential - Thermal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matter and its Interactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Atomic Composition - Temperature & State - Change in State - Law of Conservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newton's 1st , 2nd, and 3rd Law
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waves and Their Applications in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wave Energy - Light and Mechanical Waves

What to bring to class

- ✓ 2 - Composition Notebook (ISN)
- ✓ Pens (blue or black)/pencils (bring backup!)
- ✓ Choose one: Folder or 3 ring binder

(Optional)

- ✓ Highlighter
- ✓ Colored pencils
- ✓ Red checking pen



Expectations/Procedures

1. Everyone is expected to demonstrate mutual respect and act appropriately following school and classroom procedures.
2. You are to be in your assigned seat, ready to work when the bell rings. There will be a focus **Daily Science Question (DSQ)** at the beginning of each class you need to complete. Please be aware that these focus questions are to be completed even if you are **absent** from class as they tie directly into our daily learning.
3. All assignments turned in must have your first and last name, date, hour, and assignment name on it. Papers with no names will be recycled and not be given credit.
4. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make-up all work you have missed and complete. Regarding Lab Work: An alternate assignment may need to be given.
All assignments are posted on my webpage: <http://cclow.weebly.com>
5. Turn in all homework and class work on time. Extra credit does not exist.

Grading

Academic Grades are posted on PowerSchool and are based upon the following:

Summative Assessments: 60% of final grade
Labs/Project Based Learning: 40% of final grade

0 = A zero will be given for academic assignments not turned in and will be replaced with a score once the assignment is completed.

Some class work will be scored using a 4-point rubric and does not count towards final academic grade. (small labs/activities or some work to be finished at home)

- 4 = the assignment exceeds the objectives, and reflects excellent work.
- 3 = the assignment meets the objectives as required.
- 2 = the assignment meets some of the objectives, but not others that were required.
- 1 = the assignment was submitted, but failed to meet the majority of the objectives.
- M = (missing) the assignment was not completed or turned in.

Character is an important part of our daily lives. How we behave and interact with others can and will affect our success in life. Participation, initiative, and respect will be considered when assigning **character grades** using the school wide rating.

Science Notebooks/Journals

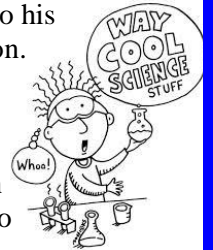
Like a professional scientist, you are expected to keep a journal, which documents what you do. This will be your composition notebook or ISN (interactive science notebook). The pages of this notebook will be numbered sequentially and all work is to be kept in chronological (time) order. Be sure to keep all assignments as a 'receipt' in case there is any questions about a grade.

These journal(s) will be your primary resource for review and assessments as we do not assign a science textbook.

Throughout the Year

There will be several collaborative and individual assignments. Each student is expected to do his or her best work. This means participating in discussions and asking questions for clarification. You will additionally have many opportunities to work on project based learning (PBL) assignments that focus on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Science is always around us and you will learn how to transfer scientific information through written expression in class. Scientific writing (claim, evidence, and reasoning) requires you to think and process beyond simply answering a question with "just because" or "I don't know."



Getting to Know You

You and your parents will be completing independent online surveys which will provide me with valuable information in order to help you be successful this year.

Students will find this survey under the class work / home work tab and we will complete in class.

Parents/Guardians will find their survey under the "For Parent" tab.

I am respectfully asking that all parent survey's be completed by Sunday, September 11th so I can begin to look at the information provided.

By completing the student & parent/guardian surveys, it assures me that you and your parents have reviewed (or know where to find electronically) the syllabus and lab safety contract.

1st Assignment

Students please make sure your Parents/Guardians sign the 1/2 sheet of paper and return it to me **on or before Friday, September 9th** regarding the syllabus and lab contract.

