

Physical Science

Mrs. Swisher: Rm. 602

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Extra-help/Tutoring Hours: Mon – Fri: 7:45-8:15am & 2:45-3:15pm



Physical Science is the study of matter and energy and how they are related to one another. The first semester of this class will focus on chemistry and the second semester will focus on physics. You will apply what you learn in the class to everyday situations by conducting investigations and formulating and testing your hypotheses. Studying physical science also teaches you to solve problems and communicate with others in an organized and logical manner.

GRADING POLICIES:

- I. Tests: 40%**
 - A comprehensive test will be given at the end of every chapter. Tests will always be announced ahead of time.
- II. Quizzes: 15%**
 - Quizzes will be related to current *and* previous topics on the material in the notes and in the homework. I may or may not announce these quizzes, so always be prepared! You need to complete your homework the night before and see me with any questions *before* class that day.
- III. Homework Assignments: 20%**
 - Homework is due at the beginning of class; it will be considered late if you do not pass in your paper when I collect it or if you have not completed your homework when I come around to check it. Except for excused absences, late work is NOT accepted.
- IV. Labs: 15%**
 - Lab experiments will be conducted every few weeks as it applies to the material we are learning in class. A lab report will be completed for each lab. Besides your lab report, your behavior and work ethic in the lab is a large portion of your overall grade.
- V. Daily Warm-Ups: 10%**
 - After the daily prayer/reflection, a warm-up will be displayed on the projector. The warm-up questions will be related to the previous day's lesson. You may use your notes and/or textbook to complete the warm-up, but you may not discuss the questions with any other students. Some warm-ups will be collected and graded, while others will be reviewed by the whole-class.

MAKE-UP WORK: If you are absent from class, it is *your* responsibility to find out the information you missed. Please come see me before or after school (not when the bell rings and class is starting) or check my website for any posted handouts. Any homework assignments must be handed in the **day after you return to school**. On the top of your homework, please write the word “absent” and include the date you were absent. For example: “Absent 9/21”.

*Remember that missing just one class can mean missing an entire topic; you need to stay organized and on top of the work. If you are missing a quiz, test, or lab, see me to set up a make-up appointment to occur within 1-3 days of your return. Because of limited supplies & time, **labs can only be made up during that specific week**. If your absence is unexcused, you will NOT be able to make-up a missed assignment/quiz/test/lab, resulting in a ZERO.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS: You need to study the material on a regular basis, and not just when a quiz/test is assigned. This course is demanding; successful completion requires full determination & dedication from beginning to end. It is essential that you are participating in class every day by taking notes, asking questions, and seeing me for extra help outside of class. Laziness and/or a lack of effort are highly frowned upon. I am always available before and after school & encourage you to see me if you are struggling with the material.

LATE POLICY: You must be at your desk, in your seat, and ready to begin our class prayer/reflection when the bell rings. If you are not in your seat with the last sound of the bell, you are considered late. At that point, you must go to the office to receive a late slip which will result in a 20 minute detention after school.

SCHOOL POLICIES: All school policies will be rigidly enforced -- no exceptions! Students must be familiar with and abide by the guidelines in the Saint Bonaventure Student Handbook pertaining to such areas as discipline, cell phones, attendance, dress code, academic honesty, etc.

TEXT AND REQUIRED CLASS SUPPLIES EVERYDAY:

- Pearson’s “Conceptual Physical Science – Explorations” textbook (2nd edition) with the Guided Reading book (paperback workbook).
- Lecture Outline for the specific chapter (posted on my website). You need to print these out ahead of time & bring them to class.
- Calculator: either a scientific or graphing will work. Please bring this to class every single day.
*Note: I will be clearing the memory on graphing calculators before tests.
- An organized 3-ring binder with plenty of loose leaf paper. If you wish, you may have a separate folder for any extra papers.