

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to 6th Grade Science! I hope everyone had a great summer, and you all are ready for a new year. This year we will focus on a variety of fascinating topics that will certainly spark curiosity and captivate your interest. Here is some practical information that will educate you about the course and some of my expectations. I look forward to a fantastic year!

**Required Materials**

* Signed safety contract (attached)-All students must turn in a safety contract signed by a guardian. Please make sure both student and guardian sign the form. Please pay special attention to the questions at the end of the form and **be very specific regarding allergies**. We do several labs that use various materials and food items. If students have an allergy, please describe to what capacity. *(For example, if a student is allergic to a substance, can they still be around it but not handle it, or do they have to avoid it completely?)*. Please note any other health concerns.
* Science Composition Notebook-Classroom notes and some assignments will be recorded in composition books. Notebooks will be periodically checked and evaluated for accuracy. It is imperative that students maintain their notebooks; they will ultimately serve as a guidebook for all course-related activities and assessments.
* Science Folder-Students will need a place to put graded assignments, quizzes, and tests.
* Textbook-Students will be assigned a textbook for the year. They may access the same textbook online textbook using the following information:

*Website: my.hrw.com*

*User Name: smmhs*

*Password: s4d4a*

**Absences/Make-up Work**

It is very important for all students to be present during class. Consistent attendance will help ensure success in the class. If a student is absent, it is THEIR responsibility to ask me for any assignments and/or notes that were missed; please do this at the beginning of class. According to school policy, students have 5 days to make up work due to an excused absence. Tests, quizzes, and labs may be made up during Directed Studies; this is also a good time to receive additional instruction and extra help.

**Late Work/Redos**

\*All late work will result in a 10 point deduction from the assignment’s final grade. Furthermore, students will have 1 week to get an assignment in. After the allotted time has passed, work will no longer be accepted and students will receive a zero.

\*In my class, students have the option to redo homework and classwork assignments in order to improve their grade; however it is THEIR responsibility to redo the assignment. I will typically not ask students to redo failed assignments, unless I feel the student needs additional help and/or instruction. Furthermore, if a student makes a 70 or below on a test, they do have an option to retake another version of the test; retakes of tests may only be attempted once. All grades on exams are final-no retakes of any kind. Any redos of assignments or retakes of tests cannot receive a score higher than a 90.

\*Extra help is always an option during Directed Studies. I will be happy to give any students a pass if they want help or need to make up any assignments. I can also stay after school if needed, but an appointment is required.

**Contact Information**

Email is the best means of contacting me. My email address is [**mclimans\_m@hcde.org**](mailto:mclimans_m@hcde.org)**.**

Sincerely,

Mary O’Neill McLimans

6th and 7th Grade Science