Jorge Mas Canosa Middle School

Welcome Letter

Dear Students and Parents,

 I am truly glad to have you as part of my eighth grade class. I anticipate a wonderful year filled with meaningful learning experiences. Together we will grow and challenge our minds. Throughout the course of the year I will be communicating with parents in regards to their children’s progress. Listed below is a syllabus explaining some general information which students and parents need to read and discuss.

2011-2012

**Instructor:** Mrs. Mantecon

**Course:** 8th grade Science

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to teach and reinforce significant Science skills and concepts of the corresponding grade level, which are required by the state of Florida. As a part of this course, students will be prepared for the FCAT Science exam.

**General Course Requirements:**

* **INTERN ACCESS IS REQUIRED**!! Our new textbooks are virtual, therefore in order to maximize your child’s learning potential, they must be able to access and use the textbook website along with other highly recommended enrichment sites.
* All assignments and tests will come from the material covered in class. If a student is absent, **it is his/her responsibilit**y to obtain any missed material. The student must ask the teacher for any make – up assignments or notes they have missed. Make –up tests must be arranged or the student will receive a “0” for that grade.
* Participation is essential. In order to meet the participation criteria students must come to class prepared with all necessary materials. They must also keep up with their notebook and take an active role in the classroom.
* Class work and homework is what provides the student with the proper practice and exposure necessary to learn material and succeed in tests. Therefore, it is mandatory that students complete all homework and class work assignments in order to receive an adequate grade. Due to the nature of the course, and in preparation for the FCAT exam; **students will have homework following each class**.

**Grading Criteria:** Grades will be based on tests/quizzes, class work, projects, homework, and labs. The final grade for each nine week period will come from the average of these grades.

**Grading Scale:** 90-100= A, 80-89= B, 70-79= C, 60-69= D, 50-59= F

**Conduct Policy:** The student is expected to follow all school/classroom rules and procedures. These rules and procedure are in place to ensure the safety of all students and teachers. Otherwise the student will face consequences.

**Classroom Code of Conduct:**

* Raise your hand to speak
* Listen attentively while others are speaking
* Respect each others’ thoughts, ideas and personal space
* Bring required materials to class every day.
* Arrive on time to class
* When conducting a lab, follow all presented rules and procedures, in addition to these
* Be open minded and willing to learn

**Consequences:**

1. **First incident = Warning**
2. **Second incident = Call Home**
3. **Third incident = Detention/Referral to Administration**
* **Verbal or physical aggression will not be tolerated. If an incident of this nature were to occur, the student will be immediately referred to the administration and the parent will be contacted.**

**Science Materials**

**2010-2011**

* **Lab Fee (due at a later date)**
* **1 Three ring binder (1.5”)**
* **#2 pencils with erasers**
* **Sufficient paper for the year**
* **1Pack of assorted high liters**
* **3 Tab dividers**
* **Post it notes**
* **1 Ream of computer paper**
* **1 Bottle of Lysol, Air Freshener, or role of paper towel (parent’s choice)**
* **Calculator**
* **Glue, colored pencils, scissors**
* **USB drive**