

To: Grades 5 and 6 Parents/Guardians

From: Mrs. Gayle Norton

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2019

Re: Grades 5 and 6 Science Expectations and Grading Policy

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy. My name is Gayle Norton and I will be your child's Science teacher this year. I have been teaching for the past 15 years. This is my second year here at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy. Prior experience includes 5 years in the Catholic Schools of Pittsfield, Massachusetts then 9 years at Morningside Community School in the Pittsfield Public Schools. While my resume shows teaching experience in Massachusetts, I am a Brooklyn girl who attended Good Shepherd Grammar School and Bishop Kearney High School. I earned my B.S. in Finance at Fairfield University and my Masters in Education: Elementary 1-6 from Cambridge College.

I am very proud to once again teach in the catholic schools, especially at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy.

### **Grade 5 and 6 Science: Student Expectations**

Each student has already received their Science workbook. Grade 5 is using Interactive Science by Pearson. Grade 6 is using Interactive Science: Physical Science by Pearson. The workbook as well as a notebook and any homework assignments are all expected to be brought to class every day. Students should be prepared, focused and ready to work.

### **Expectations: Classwork/ Activities/ Labs**

Students will work in groups during classroom activities and in the lab. Classwork activities and labs are to be completed following classroom and lab guidelines and procedures. Students are required to participate, listen to others, answer respectfully, cooperate with classmates, and follow all safety procedures.

## Homework

Homework should be **entered** into the student's agenda **immediately** upon entering the classroom. Please note that all homework is due on its posted due date. Homework will be graded. ***Late homework will be accepted but 5 points per day late will be deducted from the grade.*** Late homework will not be accepted after 3 days, unless a note is provided. In the upcoming weeks, homework may be required to be submitted to our Google Classroom. Please refer to our class calendar for all assignments due.

## Formative assessments, Quizzes and Tests

Chapter notes and vocabulary should be reviewed daily. Formative non-graded assessments will be conducted daily to check understanding of the topic. Graded quizzes will be used to assess understanding at various points throughout the chapter.

Students will be assessed when all chapter objectives have been met. Tests will be announced and posted to Google Classroom/Calendar a week in advance.

## Grading Policy

40% Tests	15% Classwork
20% Quizzes	15% Homework
10% Labs	

## Technology

The use of technology is integrated into the science curriculum. We will be using various types of technology to enhance learning this year. I look forward to introducing Google Classroom to all of the students. Your child will have access to various resource links, assignments, study guides, videos, posted to their Google Classroom account. Partnered with their Chromebook, exploring science will be engaging and fun this year!

**I can be reached @ [gnorton@stfrancisschoolbh.net](mailto:gnorton@stfrancisschoolbh.net) for any questions you may have. I will check my email daily up until 9:00 P.M. I promise to get back to you as quickly as possible.**