Dear Parent / Guardian,

 I want science to be interesting and fun for every student. Science is all around us and it is my goal to inspire lifelong learning in science so students will make informed/educated decisions regarding their science choices as an adult. This may include helping them to select an environmentally friendly car, understanding why recycling is important, deciding what technology they need in their home, or which new medicine or medical procedure to try. I have high expectations because I believe that every child can learn and will achieve to his or her fullest potential.

***Resources***

Each student will be required to keep a **unit notebook** which will contain all materials needed for review and assessment preparation.

**Textbooks** are used in class only. However, students may check out the textbooks at any time to take home for additional review and or enrichment.

The class website (**mmstigerscience@weebly.com),** which can be found on the 7th grade home page (**https://sites.google.com/site/mariettamiddleschool7thgrade/**) contains resources for students and parents.

As a **parent/guardian**, you have a tremendous influence on your child’s academic behavior. The following are ways you can help your child reach his or her fullest potential:

* Ask your child about science class.Discuss science events in the news. Check the website for resources: mmstigerscience.weebly.com
* Set asidetime each day for reflection / homework.We are all busy and children’s schedules are tight, but we seem to forget how important reflection / homework can be. I certainly had homework as a child and now with less class time and higher expectations from the federal and state government we cannot possibly prepare our students for the future without reinforcement and extended work outside of the classroom. Homework may be a simple review of their notebook or a worksheet.
* If a problem or issue arises contact me ASAP***.*** It is imperative we deal with issues immediately so they do not interfere with your child’s progress. I cannot “fix” a school issue or eliminate a misunderstanding if I do not know about it.
* Help your child become responsible for their actions!

***Supplies Due Date for supplies: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2014***

* One (1 inch) three ring binder for a science notebook
* Pencils, erasers, a red pen, and notebook paper
* Earbuds ( in-ear headphones) that will remain in science class

***If you need assistance with any of these items please let me know as soon as possible.***

**At various times in the school year your child may be asked to buy or supply materials for specific projects. Please notify me if there are financial difficulties so I can privately and confidentially take care of the situation. If you are not able to provide the above supplies for your child please notify me before the due date by writing a note, email, and or call the office and leave a message. I will try and provide your child with these essential supplies!**

***Make up Work / When your Child is Absent***

It is critical that students who are absent make up all assignments and tests in a timely manner, as per handbook policy.

Also see Behavior / Procedure Matrix (found in student’s notebook or on the website)



**http://mmstigerscience.weebly.com/**

***Grading***

Grades in science are based onsummative assessments (ex. quizzes, tests, end of unit projects) of the learning. These assessments summarize a student’s development at a particular time. In order to help develop learning, formative assessments (ex. worksheets, homework, labs) are used as practice and will not impact the overall grade.

Extra creditwill not be available; however certain summative assessments may be retaken.

**Student academic achievement in science should be measured primarily through learning gains; not just the “letter” grade.**

***MMS Vision Statement***
**A student who…**

* Strives for personal and academic excellence
* Demonstrates a strong work ethic toward academics by producing high-quality, in-school assignments and homework
* Demonstrates positive character and leadership by accepting responsibility for his or her learning, decisions, and behavior
* Is self-directed, sets goals, self-assesses, and reflects on his or her own progress
* Demonstrates respectful behavior toward faculty, staff, and peers
* Is conscientious and displays a positive, cooperative attitude and age-appropriate maturity
* Shows pride in his or her school
* Attends school regularly
* Is actively involved in school activities
* Fulfills all graduation requirements
* Honors and values the district vision, mission, commitments, and goals

***Class Motto***

Be Respectful, Be Responsible, & Be Ready in order to be SUCCESSFUL!

***Class Needs***

I welcome and appreciate any donations of supplies (tissues, paper towels, disinfecting wipes, batteries, paper, etc). Please contact me if you think you may have items that could be used in the science classroom!



Clip and Bring in Boxtops!!!!!!!!

Yours in Education,

**Crystal Barnett-Sheaves**

**Marietta Middle School**

**cbarnett-sheaves@mariettacsdoh.org**

**http://mmstigerscience.weebly.com/**