Course Description
Physical Science A is an introductory class that covers some fundamental principles in chemistry. The following areas will be covered:
- Scientific Tools and Classifying Matter
- States of Matter and Phase Changes
- Atomic Structure
- Periodic Table
- Chemical Changes and Bonds
- Solutions, Acids and Bases
- Carbon Chemistry

All information for this class can be found on the website

Required Materials
Pen or Pencil
Notebook
Folder for keeping materials

Textbook
The textbook used in this course is Glencoe, Physical Science, 2001. Textbooks will not be distributed to students but will be used in the classroom. Students, or parents, may check out a textbook for use outside the classroom. Failure to return a text results in a fine of $60.00.

Class Expectations
I expect all students to follow the four rules to ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn.
1. Be on time - the school's tardy policy will be followed.
2. Bring all your materials - it is YOU who suffers when you do not have the materials you need to learn. We will write something everyday, please bring a pen or pencil!!
3. Respect your right and your classmates' right to learn and respect my right to teach. You may choose to interfere with your own ability to learn but consequences will result if you interfere with someone else's ability to learn or my ability to teach.
4. Responsibility! You are in charge of your own learning and outcomes in this class. I do not give grades, you EARN them.

Class Policies
1. All policies stated in the student planner are followed.
2. No purses or totes will be permitted at the student desks. If brought to class, students will be asked to place them in the back of the room and will not be permitted to get items from the purses/totes until class is over.
3. No cell phone, WCD, MP3 Players, IPODS, CD Players, Audio/Video Playback Devices permitted in the classroom.

4. Students will not be academically dishonest. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following: copying work, letting work be copied, cheat-sheets, and plagiarizing.
   
   First offense: office referral, zero grade on assignment involved, and parent/guardian contact by the teacher.
   
   Second offense: office referral, zero grade on assignment involved, parent/guardian contact, and Saturday Morning Detention.
   
   Third offense: office referral, zero grade on assignment involved, parent/guardian contact, and 1 to 10 day suspension.

5. No food. Drinks with sealable lids will be permitted. (Wednesday morning food and beverages will be permitted if we are not conducting a lab) This is a science lab where we will work with chemicals and substances that are not intended to be ingested.

6. Each student will receive 2 hall passes per trimester. They may be used to go to the bathroom, locker, or they can be turned in at the end of the trimester for 5pts each. There will be times during the course of this class when hall passes will not be permitted.

**Homework Policy**

1. Homework typically be due at the beginning of class.
2. Most homework assignment will be checked in class and have a value of 10pts. First, it will be checked for completeness and receive a stamp for being on time. When the homework is discussed, students can receive 1/2 pt. for any answers left blank. This allows for some flexibility. As a result, NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.
3. Homework that is not checked during class, may be turned in, with point deductions, until the assignment has been returned.
4. Lab work may be made up but will be penalize 10% for everyday it is late.
5. All lab data must be checked with Mrs. Collins and receive a stamp to get full credit.

**Absence Policy**

1. It is YOUR responsibility to determine any assignments missed and turn them in within the required time. A list of daily assignments and all handouts will be available in the classroom or on the website.
2. You will have the number of days missed to make up any missed work.
3. If you are absent the day of a test or quiz you will be taking that test or quiz the day you return to school.
4. For extended absences you must consult the teacher to schedule an appropriate date for retaking the test.
5. If you are absent for a lab day, you will be expected to complete the lab individually before or after school.
6. All major absences and issues are handled on a case by case basis.