

Ms. McLaughlin - Rm. 12
7th and 8th Grade Math
8th Grade Religion



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011/2012 school year. I look forward to working with your child in math and religion and believe every student can succeed in my classroom.

This year's religion curriculum will focus on Church History and the Sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Confirmation. The text is divided into units that help the students understand and appreciate the challenges and contributions of the Catholic Church as it developed from the 1st-20th centuries. We will also be studying Scripture, enhancing our understanding of the liturgy, participating in prayer, and expanding our knowledge of social justice. Students will be evaluated through participation, unit tests, written assignments, and class projects. I look forward to working with your child as they continue to grow in their faith.

Math grades are generated from tests/quizzes, worksheets (class work and homework), projects, math binder, group work, unit reviews (corrections for partial credit are allowed if the student wishes) and homework. Many homework assignments are based on newly learned skills. I consider this to be practice work and will give a 100% on the assignment as long as it has been attempted and complete. If a homework assignment is based on review skills, it will be graded based on the number of correct answers and I will tell the students it is being graded when assigned. If your child has any difficulty on a homework assignment, they should use their notes, call a friend, ask you for help, and/or take their best guess. There will generally be daily homework assignments in math. I hope all students will put time and thought into their homework.



Missing assignments are any assignments with *any problems incomplete* or any assignments that do not have the *scrap work provided when needed* (scrap work is needed most of the time). Missing assignments need to be signed by you and returned completed by the next day. I would like to help your child work on responsibility and organization, which I believe is extremely important for preparing them for high school.

The math binder is a very important tool for class. It should be neat and organized (we work on this together). It also should be used for homework help and studying for tests. Please encourage your child to use their binder frequently.

The following sections will give you an overview of content by grade level. Math content is subject to change slightly, if time allows me to introduce more material.

Seventh Grade

- Decimals and Fractions operations
- Decimals/Fractions/Percents
- Number skills - exponents, scientific notation, range, mean, median, and mode, rounding, order of operations, square roots, and Roman numerals.
- Integers - adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing integers
- Rational numbers
- Algebra - solving expressions, one step equations with integers, combining like terms, inequalities, coordinate plane and two-step equations
- Measurement - metric and standard units and conversions for length, capacity and weight
- Ratios, Rate, Proportions
- Percents - finding the percent of a number, sale tax, simple interest, etc.
- Probability - independent, dependent and experimental probability
- Geometry - vocabulary, labeling, angles, and formulas

Eighth Grade

- Decimals, Fractions, and Percents
- Number skills - scientific notation, product and quotient of powers, square roots, real numbers etc.
- Integers
- Rational numbers
- Percents - finding a percent of a number, finding the percent one number is of another, etc.
- Graphing - review plus box and whisker plots, stacked bar graphs, scatterplots, etc.
- Probability - independent, dependent and experimental probability
- Measurement - metric and standard units and conversions for length, capacity and weight
- Geometry - vocabulary, formulas, triangles, surface area, polyhedrons, Pythagorean Theorem, etc.
- Interest - percent of increase/decrease, commission, taxes, simple and compound interest
- Ratios, Rates, and Proportions
- Algebra - one and two step equations and inequalities with integers, ordered pairs, graphing linear equations and inequalities, equations with like terms, basic Trigonometry etc.

Every student should seek help whenever needed. I am available for extra help if your child would like to set that up with me. I appreciate you spending your time reviewing this information. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me about them. I'm looking forward to a very positive school year!

Ms. Michelle McLaughlin