**Grading and Due Dates**

**What Makes-up Your Grade?** Class grades consist of all of the following items: quizzes, tests, projects, writings, participation, and homework. We must give tests in order to assess what a student has learned and retained.

**Why Homework?** Teachers assign homework so that students can learn and master the concepts that were taught that day. There will usually be some time given in class to get some of the work done, but students will usually have to finish their work for homework. The teacher will tell students when your homework is due and write it on the board so they can copy it into their planner. Regular homework will account for no more than 10% of class grade. If homework is not done before the start of class, it is considered not done and the student will not get credit for the work due for that day. We will only accept late homework for an excused absence.

**Due Dates:** To help students know when their homework and projects are due, we write the due dates on our classroom white boards. Students are expected to write it in their planners (agendas). Many parents want to know what assignments their students are working on, and when they are due. Parents should do the following:

* Ask to see your child’s planner
* Check the teacher’s web page
* Log in to Parent Portal
* **Absent on the Due Day: I**f a student knows in advance that he or she will not be in school when an assignment is due, the student needs to turn in the assignment on the day before he or she will be gone.  If a student is unexpectedly ill AND has an excused absence on a due day, the assignment may be turned in with no penalty when the students returns to school.

**Extended Days Off:** If the student will be gone for an extended time, the student must make arrangements with the office for an independent study plan, and see the teacher at least a week in advance to determine when to get their assignments.

**Late Work:** We want to help your child prepare for the work expectations for the rest of middle school and high school. We have therefore instituted the following policy for the acceptance of late work and projects:

* Assignments that are turned in after the due date are considered late, unless there is an extenuating circumstance that is beyond the control of the student. Such extenuating circumstances must be communicated to the teacher in advance of the due date if possible, or accompanied by a parent note if it was not possible. The teacher may or may not accept the excuse to give late work full credit.
* Late assignments will have points deducted, depending upon how late it is turned in.
* Late assignments will be accepted up until five school days after they were due. After that, they will not be accepted, and the student will receive a zero for the assignment.
* We do not accept late homework.

For example, if an assignment is due on a Tuesday, it will be late if it is turned in after Tuesday. The teacher will accept it for the next five school days: Wednesday through Friday, and Monday & Tuesday of the following week. After that fifth day the following Tuesday, the assignment will not be accepted, and the student receives a zero for the grade.  *It is much better to turn in a paper late than not to turn it in at all, because some points are better than no points.* Zero point assignments will hurt your grade very quickly.

**Retakes:** We believe that it is more important for a student to come away from the class understanding the material and the concepts than it is to just get answers right on an exam. We recognize that students learn at different rates, and that it may take extra time for some people to learn the course material. For this reason, any student may make arrangements to retake an exam (not a quiz or homework) to get a better score and grade. Retakes must be done within 2 weeks or the end of trimester grade closing period set by the school. Instead of retakes, we may require students to redo missed test questions to improve their grade.

**Grading Scale:** The middle school grading scale for homework, papers, projects, reports, and report cards is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 97 - 100%  | A+  | Understands the material very well  |
| 94 -96%  | A  |
| 90-93%  | A-  |
| 87-89%  | B+  |
| 84-86%  | B  | Understands most of the material  |
| 80-83%  | B-  |
| 77-79%  | C+  | Understands some of the material  |
| 74-76%  | C  |
| 70-73%  | C-  |
| 67-69%  | D+  | Does not understand the material and needs to get assistance  |
| 64-66%  | D  |
| 60-63%  | D-  |
| less than 60%  | F  |

**Cheating**: Cheating will not be tolerated, and people caught cheating on quizzes or exams will be given a zero for the whole exam. There will be no chance for a retake. Plagiarism (copying somebody else’s writings and pretending it is your own writing) is considered cheating. If you are going to quote somebody’s writing, cite it (give them credit for it).

Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions:

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Thank you ☺