



Dinoff School

Physical Science

PLEASE HAVE PARENT SIGN AND RETURN.

Instructor: Mrs. Alyssa NeSmith

e-mail: alnesmith@thedinoffschool.com

Parent Meetings: By appointment through email

This course is a student led survey of Physical Science with an emphasis on concepts, that will build on the natural curiosity of students. They will make observations and practice asking questions. Through utilization of the scientific method, students will study Physics, Chemistry, Earth Science and Astronomy.

Strands: Scientific Investigation, Mechanics, Forms of Energy, Chemistry, Earth Science, Astronomy

Hints and Advice for this Course

1. **Pay attention in class.** The main period of instruction will be during lecture during your class period. Take notes and ask questions. I am here for you, I ask that you be here with me.
2. You can **keep track of your points**, percentile, and grade in this course easily. If you have questions about your grades, see me.
3. I recommend that you find a partner or group with whom you can study the material in this course. Talk about the information, read each other's work, study together, share notes, etc. on a regular basis so that you can keep up with the syllabus and assignments.
4. **I expect all students to abide by the honor code.** Plagiarism and cheating will not be accepted and all suspected cases will be taken to the headmaster. If confirmed, you will receive an F for this course
5. **This Syllabus is subject to change. Please keep it for the entire year. We may mark key changes on the syllabus in class.**

Physical Science Grading Policy

Grades: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79%= C; 60-69% = D; and below 59% = F.

Your grade will be determined by the percentage of points you earn compared to the total amount of points that could be earned.

Exams: There are **four tests, one midterm and one final** scheduled for this year. Each test will be worth a 100 pts, the midterm will be worth 200 points, and the final will be worth 300 points.

Science Fair Project: Each student will be required to participate in the school wide Science Fair. This will be worth 200 Points in total, and can be from any branch of science not just earth science. **Topics are due September 14th.**

Lab Reports: Labs are the most important part of a science class. Each unit will have several labs, and thus several lab reports to turn in. All of the lab reports of a unit will be due the day of the test for that unit, and that unit will have a Lab grade worth 100 points.

Homework/Quizzes: Homework will be assigned as curriculum dictates. Quizzes will be used sparingly though a unit to assess content retention. These will have point values from 5-25 points.

** This course will be student led and instructor facilitated. The path of study will be dictated by the students. I will send home a letter that will break down each unit during the second week of school, after the students have made their decisions.

Date	
August 14-18	Introduction/Syllabus/Placement Activities
August 16	First Day of School
August 21-25	Unit 1
August 28 - September 1	Unit 1
September 4	Labor Day NO SCHOOL
September 4- 8	Unit 1
September 8	Teacher Work Day
September 11-15	Unit 1
September 14	Science Fair Topics Due
September 15	Parent Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal 11:30
September 18-22	Unit 1
September 25-29	Unit 1
October 2-6	Unit 1

October 5	SCIENCE FAIR ROUGH DRAFT PAPER DUE	
October 5	TEST 1 - Unit 1 LAB Reports Due	
October 6	Teacher Work Day	
October 9-13	Fall Break	
October 16-20	Unit 2	
October 18	Progress Reports	
October 23-27	Unit 2	
October 30- November 3	Unit 2	
October 31	Halloween Party	
November 6- 10	Unit 2	
November 10	SCIENCE FAIR – POSTERS AND FINAL PAPER DUE	
November 13- 17	Unit 2	
November 16	TEST 2 – Unit 2 LAB reports Due	
November 17	Teacher Work Day	
November 20- 24	Thanksgiving Break	
November 27- December 1	Unit 3	
December 4-8	Unit 3 Review for Midterms	
December 11- 15	December 15th – MIDTERM EXAM	
December 18- 22	Math applications in the Real World Holiday Break starts December 21st.	
December 20	Holiday Party	
December 25- 29	Holiday Break	
January 1-5	Holiday Break	
January 8-12	January 8th- Students Return Unit 4	
January 15	MLK DAY NO SHCOOL	
January 15-19	Unit 4	
January 22-26	Unit 4	
January 29- February 2	Unit 4	
February 5 - 9	Unit 4	
February 12- 15	Unit 4	

February 15	TEST 3 – Unit 4 LAB reports Due	
February 16	TEACHER WORK DAY NO SCHOOL	
February 19-23	WINTER BREAK	
February 26 March 2	Unit 5	
March 2	Dr. Seuss Day	
March 5-9	Unit 5	
March 12-16	Unit 5	
March 14	PI Day	
March 16	Teacher Work Day	
March 19-23	Unit 5 21-23 ITBS Testing	
March 26-30	Unit 5	
April 2-6	Unit 5	
April 6	Field Day	
April 9-13	Unit 5	
April 13	TEST 4 – Unit 5 LAB reports Due	
April 16-20	SPRING BREAK	
April 23 -27	Unit 6	
April 30 - May 4	Unit 6	
May 7-11	Unit 6 Review for Finals	
May 14-18	May 17th - Final Exam	

 I have read and understand the above syllabus, the dates for the tests, midterm, and final exams.
 There will be no exceptions or extensions without a doctor's excuse.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____