

Holy Rosary Academy

Middle School Policy

2011-2012



*H*onor

*R*esponsibility

*A*chievement

Middle School Faculty

Mrs. Mary Hart, Principal

Mrs. Coleen Hanley 8 th Grade Homeroom (8H)	7 th /8 th Language Arts 8 th Grade Religion
Mrs. Betty Reynolds 8 th Grade homeroom (8R)	7 th /8 th Grade Advanced Mathematics
Mr. Kim Barton	7 th /8 th Grade Mathematics
Ms. Victoria Richards 7 th Grade homeroom (7R)	6 th /7 th /8 th Grade Science
Mr. Jim Walsh 7 th Grade homeroom (7W)	6 th /7 th /8 th Grade Social Studies
Mrs. Heather Brennan 6 th Grade homeroom (6B)	6 th Grade Language Arts 7 th Grade Writing 6 th Grade Religion
Mrs. Mary Wilhelm 6 th Grade homeroom (6W)	6 th Grade Mathematics 7 th /8 th Grade Religion
Mrs. Judy Malmin	6 th /7 th /8 th Grade Physical Education
Mrs. Chris Melton	6 th /7 th /8 th Grade Music
Ms. Meghan Walker	6 th /7 th /8 th Grade Spanish & Art
Ms. Shelbie Ely	Counselor
Mrs. Cheri McGowan	Media Specialist
Mrs. Amanda Kreh	6 th /7 th /8 th Computer

Middle School Discipline Policy

In Middle School, the following rules, rewards, and consequences will be in effect and will be enforced:

Rules

- Follow all directions.
- Bring necessary materials to class each day.
- Respect others and their property.
- Speak appropriately at all times.
- Keep hands off others and property of others.

Rewards

- Praise
- Special treats

Consequences

- Verbal or written warning
- Silent Lunch

Demerits (every three demerits will earn a detention)

Severity Clause: Students will be sent to the Principal.

Demerits

Chewing gum, repeated uniform violations after the first offense, or inappropriate behavior will earn a demerit from any teacher. **Students and Parents sign the demerit slip and the slip is returned to the homeroom teacher by the next school day. Students will receive an administrative demerit if the first one is not returned by the next school day.**

Family Folders must be returned within two school days. Failure to return the family folder will result in a silent lunch.

Detention takes place from 8:00 to 9:00 AM on designated Saturdays. See student handbook for information regarding detention.

Uniform Policy information is in the student handbook, and on the school calendar. Appropriate dress for uniform break days is also on the school calendar. All students are expected to comply with uniform dress codes and uniform break codes. Specific information is found on page 5 of the Middle School Policy.

No cell phones or other electronic devices are permitted at school at any time.

In hallways, classrooms, dining hall, or at dismissal, students should respect the personal space of others. Inappropriate physical contact will result in consequences as determined by the faculty and administration of the academy.

Hallways are small and used by many. Move to the right as you use the hallways and do not touch another student or property of that student.

Bullying Policy

The following policy applies to all students as long as they are registered at Holy Rosary Academy. It includes, but is not limited to, the following actions: **physical bullying** (pushing, tripping, hitting, kicking, punching, stealing property), **verbal bullying** (name-calling, mocking, making fun of others, threats of physical harm, inappropriate notes or letters), **relational bullying** (social isolation and exclusion, spreading rumors) or **cyber-bullying** (inappropriate text messages, emails, posts on websites, digital videos, or photos) via phone or computer.

Typically what separates bullying from other behaviors is:

1. **Ongoing:** Behavior exhibited by a student more than once.
2. **Deliberate:** Behavior witnessed by other students/adults as purposeful and not by accident.
3. **Unequal:** Behavior exhibited by someone who is NOT considered a friend.

Please note that friendship struggles are equally important, but require more open communication first rather than bullying steps.

If a student experiences bullying, **he or she NEEDS to report it**. Here are some options students have when reporting bullying:

1. Tell your teacher or the adult in charge immediately.
2. Drop a note in the Counselor Box. Although this note can be anonymous, it is most helpful to have detailed information about the students involved AND the bullying behaviors exhibited.
3. Ask to speak to the counselor to talk about it.

As always, parents should feel free to call or email the teacher or the counselor regarding the situation. Please know that in order for us to help, we need to know right away. Please encourage your child to talk about it with a teacher or the counselor so immediate action can be taken.

Steps of Accountability for Grades 6 – 8:

Step 1: Demerit. This is the first verified indication that bullying is occurring. Parents are called. Student meets with the counselor and the principal. Student is required to meet consistently with the counselor to work on strategies for relating better to others.

Step 2: Detention. A face-to-face meeting will be scheduled with student, parents, the principal and the counselor. Student will be given a written assignment on friendship/conflict resolution skills to share with younger grades. This assignment is to be completed and turned in at detention. If not completed and turned in at detention, there will be other consequences.

Step 3: ISS and Probation. Student will serve one day of ISS and will be on probation from all after school activities for two weeks. 6 sessions of outside counselor in the community will be required.

Step 4: Dismissal from activities. Student will be dismissed from any athletic or extracurricular activities and will be prohibited from attending all field trips including LBL, Marymount, and New York City.

Step 5: Expulsion.

****Please note: All verified instances of PHYSICAL BULLYING result in an automatic jump up one step. Actions that qualify as PHYSICAL bullying will be left up to the discretion of the teacher, counselor, and administration.****

*****Any bullying steps accrued last academic year will count for the next academic year. For example, if a student accrued a Step 1 last year and offends this year, he or she will be placed on Step 2 Detention. *****

Attendance and Tardy Policies

Holy Rosary Academy has attendance and tardy policies that are aligned to Diocesan directives. Please note the attendance, tardy, and early checkout policies found in the Student Handbook.

Absent

- ✓ Please call the office between 7:15 and 8:30 to report an absence.
- ✓ A doctor's note is required after three (3) consecutive days of absence.
- ✓ **On the day of return to school, verification of the absence must be made by written notice from the parents to the homeroom teacher. The written notice must include the reason for the absence, date, parent signature and phone number. After 3 days, a doctor's note is needed with the parent note. Undated notes cannot be accepted.**
- ✓ **Emails are not accepted.**
- ✓ Five unexcused absences will require the parents to meet with the Principal.
- ✓ Ten (10) accumulated absences (excused and unexcused) will require the parent to meet with the Principal.
- ✓ Students who are absent from school may not participate in nor come to watch athletic practices or other extracurricular activities in the evening.
- ✓ Students checked out **before** 2:20 will be marked ½ day absent.

Homework

- ✓ Please do not call the school or email a teacher for assignments for one day of absence.
- ✓ Encourage your student to call a friend or check the homework website for missed assignments.
- ✓ Absent for 2 or more days? Call before 10:00 AM to pick up books.
- ✓ Books and assignments may only be picked up after dismissal.

Tardy/Early Dismissal

- ✓ Late arrival is excused for doctor's appointments, if a note is brought in at arrival.
- ✓ If a child leaves after 2:20 for a doctor's appointment, the early dismissal will be excused if a doctor's note is brought to the office the next day of school.
- ✓ Siblings are not excused unless they are also seen as a patient.

Uniform Policy Information

Check the Holy Rosary Academy Handbook for proper dress.

Middle School Students:

- ✓ Shirts must be tucked into skirt, shorts, or pants.
- ✓ **Crew socks must be worn.** They can be folded one time only.
- ✓ **Skirts must touch the top of the knee front, sides, and back.**
- ✓ Standard shoes must be worn.
- ✓ Hair cannot be in the student's face or overhanging the face and eyes.
 - **Boys' hair must be above the collar, ears, and eyebrows and must be kept off the face.** Bangs that flip or curl over the eyebrows are not permitted. No fad cuts or styles in which the hair is combed forward onto the face.
 - **Girls must keep hair pulled back and off the face. No colorings or highlighting is permitted. Girls or boys who come to school with colored hair or highlights will receive an automatic detention.**
- ✓ No make-up of any kind.
- ✓ Belts must be worn.
- ✓ The use of perfume and cologne/after-shave is prohibited.
- ✓ All Middle School boys must have at least one pair of uniform pants to be worn on Special Liturgies, field trips, and other special occasions.

Uniform Break Days:

No athletic shorts or pants.

Shirts for both boys and girls must have sleeves – no tank tops.

No large or hanging earrings.

Hair must be kept pulled back and off the face for girls. Boys: same rules apply as stated above.

No nail polish.

No make up for 6th and 7th grade girls. 8th grade girls may wear a LIGHT make up on Uniform breaks only.

Shoes must have closed toes and heels.

Girls may wear jeans, pants, capris, or shorts that touch the knees. **Skirts or dresses must come to the top of the knee.**

No inappropriate logos, images, or messages on shirts.

Homework Policy and Guidelines

Homework is a significant part of Middle School and is a valuable aid in helping students make the most of their experiences in school. Homework is given to reinforce what has been taught in class, to prepare for future lessons, and to help students develop self-discipline, responsibility, and organizational skills.

Homework Guidelines

- ✓ All students are required to use their homework agenda to record daily and long-term assignments.
- ✓ All assignments must be completed and turned in on time.
- ✓ Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments and for completing all missed assignment due to absence from school. Students have one day for each day absent to make up work.
- ✓ If a student misses a class or classes for an early dismissal, it is the student's responsibility to turn in any assignments due that day to their teachers before they leave school. It is expected that students returning to school the next day after an early dismissal will be prepared with the assignment due that day.
- ✓ Work should be neatly done in pencil or blue/black erasable ink.
- ✓ It is the students' responsibility to complete work missed and see that the teacher receives the assignments.

Parents are key to making homework a positive experience. Homework should be a top priority. Providing needed supplies, a quiet homework environment, plenty of praise and support go a long way to ensuring your child's academic success. Contact the teacher if a problem arises.

Late Homework

Check the homework website for long-range assignments and up-coming tests. Middle school teachers will post these. Daily homework is also posted, but daily classwork is not. The following is how late homework will be counted in the middle school:

- 1 day late = 10% deduction
- 2 days late = 20% deduction
- 3 days late = teacher's discretion

No late assignments will be accepted after 3 days. **This provision does not apply to long-term assignments or projects, including Vocabulary Workshop.**

Midterm and Final Exams

Sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students will take semester exams in core subjects mid-year and at the end of the school year. These tests count for 20% of the semester grade. Two exams are taken each day. **Students are dismissed after exams are completed on the designated dates (See Calendar for exam dates). Please make arrangements for your student to be picked up after exams.**

Class Trips

Throughout the school year, trips will be offered. Students will receive a permission form that must be signed and returned by a designated date. Failure to return these signed forms and the monies required for the trip will result in that students not being able to attend that trip.

Students must have money and a parent-signed permission form in by the assigned date or forfeit the trip. Calling home on that date is not permitted.

Reasons that may prevent participation in class trips or special events include but are not limited to:

- ✓ **Two or more suspensions**
- ✓ **Ten or more demerits (conduct related)**
- ✓ **Discipline issues**
- ✓ **Failure to follow directions**
- ✓ **Permission forms and monies not in on time**
- ✓ **Consistently failing grades**

Religion Class Guidelines for the 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades

Sixth Grade

This course will cover the Old Testament including Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the area around Rome and Greece. Students will be expected to memorize prayers and take tests and quizzes on the chapters covered in the book. Students will read Scripture pertaining to the topic from the Bible.

Seventh Grade

The title of this year's program is *Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life*. Through their texts, the students will reflect on the person of Jesus and on their baptismal call to walk with Him along the way to the Father. They will listen to the truth of His teaching, and they will meditate on the gift of new life that is theirs through the sacraments because of His dying and rising. They will be challenged to respond to Jesus by walking His way and encouraging others to follow Him, by living according to the truth He taught, and by sharing his life and love with all whom we meet.

Eighth Grade

Using the text, *Christ Our Life, The Church Then and Now*, we expect to deepen the understanding and faith of the students by covering such topics as "The Mystery of the Church" wherein we trace the roots of our faith, "The History of the Church" which explores the church down through history to the present, and "The Witness of the Church" where the students will be made aware of what it means to live a Christian life.

Eighth Grade Confirmation

The students will prepare for Confirmation and their commitment to Christian life using the text, *Confirmed in the Spirit*.

Please check the Middle School Policy regarding missing or absent work.

Students are expected to come to class prepared with all materials they will need for their class.

Spanish

Ms. Walker, walker@holyrosary.edu

Text: The 6th & 7th grades use *¡Exprésate! Level 1A*, and the 8th uses *¡Exprésate! Level 1B*, Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Classroom Rules:

Be prepared.

What this looks like: When class begins, student is in assigned seat with a working writing utensil and needed materials on desk.

Be polite.

What this looks like: This is a requirement that all students respect their teachers, their classmates, their materials, and themselves! Each student takes care of his or her own property and avoids damage to the school's or others' property. Student uses positive language, and does not put anyone down.

Be productive.

What this looks like: Student follows procedures for individual and group work, turning in assignments, and other classroom directions from the teacher in order to use our class time efficiently.

Goals: Be proud. (Doing your best is strongly encouraged.)

Consequences:

Verbal warning

Student writes a written reflection or apology for his or her actions

Loss of free time or computer time.

Note or call home

Silent Lunches

Student does work alone instead of buddy work.

Demerits

Rewards:

Praise or notes

Spanish games time

In-class homework time

Tickets (billetes) will be given out for good behavior seen throughout a class (being ready to begin class, working well in alone work and/or cooperatively in a group, etc.).

The tickets may be put in a collection upon exiting each class and I will draw names for prizes periodically (at least once a month). Prizes will include fun school supplies, candy, or points on assignments.

6th Grade Language Arts

Welcome to 6th Grade Language Arts with Mrs. Brennan! I am very excited about the upcoming school year. I know that if we work together it will be a very productive and fun year! Let's get started...

Classroom Rules

1. Follow all directions correctly the first time given.
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak without any class disruption.
3. Speak at appropriate times using appropriate voices and language.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. Show respect to other people and their property.

Consequences

- Warnings – written or verbal to the student and/or parent.
- Written assignment – ways to improve one's behavior
- Phone call home and/or Demerit
- Sent to the principal's office

General Information

- Students should come to class prepared each day (this includes bringing all Language Arts books, pens/pencils, notebook/folder to class).
- Students are expected to complete assignments and turn them in on time.
- Students are expected to read all assigned reading in order to fully participate in classroom learning experiences.
- Students are expected to ask questions to gain better understanding of material presented.
- Work turned in is expected to be neat. If I cannot read it, the student will be asked to redo it (this could mean a lower grade).
- Our classroom is a family environment. All students are expected to be respectful at all times.

Grammar: We will work in the grammar textbook during class time. The students will be expected to complete *workbook* pages for class work and/or homework. We will also do various small projects throughout the year to enhance our understanding of the English language.

Writing: Students will be guided through the five-step writing process:

1. Prewriting (brainstorming ideas, making a story web, organizing your thoughts, etc.)
2. Drafting (putting your ideas on paper – 1st draft)
3. Revising (-or Editing-having a peer, parent, or teacher read your paper through and help you make corrections as needed)
4. Proofreading (reading over your work one more time and making final corrections)
5. Publishing (writing your final copy in your very best handwriting or typing it)

Students will be expected to use what they have learned about grammar to improve their writing. Various writing assignments will be given throughout the year. We will work on getting started in class and the students will be given ample time to complete the assignments. Most of the time students will be given plenty of class time to complete most, if not all, of the writing assignments. They will also be expected to use feedback from peers and myself to evaluate and revise their written work.

Reading: Students will be required to read books from the following genres: poetry, traditional literature, fantasy, science fiction, realistic fiction, historical fiction, mystery, biography/ autobiography/memoir, and informational. The students will have a required goal of reading 40 books this school year. Students will be required to complete weekly reading response entries in their Reading Notebook. They will have designated reading time at the beginning of class to help complete their goal. Chapter books and short stories will be read and studied in class to help students understand story elements, figurative language, poetic language, and literacy techniques.

Vocabulary Workshop: This is a program that is designed to enhance vocabulary development in students. Each week the students will be introduced to 20 new vocabulary words and be tested on them. The test will consist of the following: syllable stressed, definition, synonym, antonym and spelling of the words. Every 4th week the students will be assigned a cumulative review of the 3 units we have covered in the preceding weeks. The cumulative unit review will be assigned over the period of two weeks, thus giving the students two weeks to review all 60 words in preparation for the test.

Grading:

Language Arts

Mrs. Brennan’s Religion

Tests and Projects	40%		Tests	40%
Quizzes	20%		Quizzes	20%
Homework	10%		Homework	10%
Class work	10%		Class work	10%
Final Writing Assignments	20%		Journal/Reflection	20%

I am so excited to be a part of Holy Rosary Academy and I cannot wait to get started on the wonderful learning opportunities each student will have! Let’s have an extraordinary year!

Mrs. Brennan

Mrs. Wilhelm

Grade 6 Mathematics

Text- *Mathematics: Applications and Connections Course 1*

The student's experiences in the Middle School Mathematics Program are critical in preparing him/her for success in Algebra I or Geometry. In Grade Six, we begin laying the foundation for future mathematics courses on the high school level as well as mathematics in everyday life. My goal is that each student will gain the knowledge and skills necessary for a future job or career.

My primary concern is to help all students gain greater confidence in their mathematical abilities. In order to reach this goal, the students need to cooperate with me and commit to doing their very best this year. This includes accepting their responsibilities, obeying school and class rules, and adhering to the homework guidelines.

Student Responsibilities

- Attending class on time
- Being prepared for class with their covered textbook, pencil, notebook, folders, and agenda
- Recording the homework assignment in the agenda
- Completing all assigned homework and class work
- Taking notes in their math notebook
- Keeping all worksheets and handouts in the math folder
- Solving problems and showing all work
- Asking questions
- Asking for help
- Cooperating with fellow classmates
- Maintaining self-control

All 6th graders are to follow the rules outlined in the HRA Handbook. In Math class, we have some additional rules.

Classroom Rules

1. Follow all directions correctly the first time given.
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak without any class disruption.
3. Speak at appropriate times using appropriate voices and language.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. Show respect to other people and their property.

Mrs. Wilhelm
Grade 6 – Mathematics

Homework Policy

I Daily Homework Assignments

There will be a Math homework assignment almost every day except Fridays. Students may be working on extended assignment over the weekends. Students will turn in assignments on time and neatly done. In order to receive full credit, students must show all work in solving problems. Assignments that are late (up to 3 days) will lose points with each day that it is not turned in.

**** ALL ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE POSTED ON THE HRA WEBSITE.*****

II Extended Homework Assignments (Problem of the Week)

These assignments must be complete, neat, and turned in on time, or points will be deducted from the final grade.

Accelerated Math Assignments

Students will be expected to work on Accelerated Math assignments (practice problems) independently at home or in school. There will be about 3 or more Accelerated Math tests due each quarter. Students will be given advance notice of the specific dates that Accelerated Math tests will be due.

III Missed Homework Assignments While Absent

Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments and making them up within a reasonable amount of time.

Grading Policy

Class work Homework Notebook Check	10%
Computation Accelerated Math Tests Problem of the Week	20%
Chapter Quizzes	30%
Chapter Tests Extended Assignments	40%

Mrs. Wilhelm

Grade 6 Advanced Mathematics (Pre-Algebra)

Text- *Mathematics: Applications and Connections Course 2*

The student's experiences in the Advanced Mathematics class of the Middle School Mathematics Program will be critical in preparing him/her for Algebra I in 8th Grade as well as Geometry in high school. In this class, the students will be building upon their understanding of mathematical concepts that will be used in higher level mathematics courses as well as mathematics in everyday life.

In Course 2, the students will be solving problems that are more challenging and require higher levels of thinking. They will be expected to keep up with the quicker pace of instruction. More independent work and less guided practice may be required of the class when covering easier topics. Students will be expected to have a more mature outlook on their responsibilities. My goal is to help the students master the fundamental mathematical skills taught in 6th and 7th grade in order to be prepared for Algebra I. To reach this goal, the students will need to cooperate with me and commit to doing their very best this year.

Please refer to "Grade 6 Mathematics" for information on the following:

Student Responsibilities

Classroom Rules

Homework Policy

Grading Policy

Mrs. Wilhelm

Grade 7 Religion

Texts- *Christ Our Life, Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life and The Holy Bible*

The seventh grade program centers on the study of God's saving love as it is revealed through his Son, Jesus. Through the text, the students will reflect on the person of Jesus and on their baptismal call to walk with Him along the way to the Father. They will listen to the truth of His teaching and will meditate on the gift of new life that is theirs through the sacraments because of His dying and rising. The class will be challenged to respond to Jesus by walking His way and encouraging others to follow Him. The goal is to help the seventh graders grow in their knowledge of Jesus; so that, they may love Him more ardently and serve Him more generously.

Student Responsibilities

- Attending class on time
- Being prepared for class (bringing a textbook, pen, paper, & folder)
- Completing all assigned homework and classwork
- Asking questions
- Reading the texts
- Cooperating with fellow classmates
- Maintaining self-control

All 7th graders are to follow the rules outlined in the HRA Handbook.

Homework Policy

- Students will turn in assignments on time and done neatly
- Assignments that are late (up to 3 days) will lose points with each day that it is not turned in
- Returned papers requiring parent signatures may be considered an assignment
- Long term assignments must be complete, neat and turned in on time in order to receive full credit
- Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments while they were absent and will be given enough time to complete them

Grading Policy

Journals/Reflections	10%
Classwork	10%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	30%
Tests/Long term assignments	40%

Mrs. Wilhelm

Grade 7 Religion

Texts- *Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life* and *The Holy Bible*

The seventh grade program centers on the study of God's saving love as it is revealed through his Son, Jesus. Through the text, the students will reflect on the person of Jesus and on their baptismal call to walk with Him along the way to the Father. They will listen to the truth of His teaching and will meditate on the gift of new life that is theirs through the sacraments because of His dying and rising. The class will be challenged to respond to Jesus by walking His way and encouraging others to follow Him. The goal is to help the seventh graders grow in their knowledge of Jesus; so that, they may love Him more ardently and serve Him more generously.

Student Responsibilities

- Attending class on time
- Being prepared for class (bringing a textbook, pen, notebook, & folder)
- Completing all assigned homework and class work
- Asking questions
- Reading the texts
- Cooperating with fellow classmates
- Maintaining self-control

All 7th graders are to follow the rules outlined in the HRA Handbook. In Religion class we have some additional rules.

Classroom Rules

1. Follow directions the first time given
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak without any class disruption
3. Use proper language
4. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself
5. Respect other students' property and school property

Consequences

- ✓ Warnings- written or verbal to the student and/or parent
- ✓ Written assignment- Ways to improve one's behavior
- ✓ Phone call home/ Demerits
- ✓ Sent to the principal

Homework Policy

- Students will turn in assignments on time and done neatly.
- Assignments that are late (up to 3 days) will lose points with each day that it is not brought to class.
- Returned papers requiring parent signatures may be considered an assignment.

- Long term assignments must be complete, neat and turned in on time in order to receive full credit.
- Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments while they were absent and will be given enough time to complete them.

Grading Policy

Journals/Reflections	10%
Class work	10%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	30%
Tests/Long term assignments	40%

Mrs. Wilhelm

Grade 8 Religion

Texts- *Christ Our Life*, *The Church Then and Now* and *The Holy Bible Confirmed in the Spirit* (for Confirmation Preparation)

The eighth grade program centers on the study of God’s faithful love as it is revealed in the Church founded by Jesus Christ. The text explores tracing the roots of our faith and the Church throughout history to the present. The students will be made aware of what it means to live a Christian life. The goal is to help the eighth graders grow in their knowledge and love of the Church.

This is a very special year in the spiritual growth and development of the students. Receiving the sacrament of Confirmation is a momentous occasion in the life of a young Catholic. In their preparation for this sacrament, the students will come to a stronger commitment to Christ and the Church.

Student Responsibilities

- Attending class on time
- Being prepared for class (bringing a textbook, pen, paper, & folder)
- Completing all assigned homework and classwork
- Asking questions
- Reading the texts
- Cooperating with fellow classmates
- Maintaining self-control

All 8th graders are to follow the rules outlined in the HRA Handbook.

Homework Policy

- Students will turn in assignments on time and done neatly.

- Assignments that are late (up to 3 days) will lose points with each day that it is not given to the teacher.
- Returned papers requiring parent signatures may be considered an assignment.
- Long term assignments must be complete, neat and turned in on time in order to receive full credit.
- Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments while they were absent and will be given enough time to complete them.

Grading Policy

Journals/Reflections	10%
Class work	10%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	30%
Tests/Long term assignments	40%

Middle School Science

Welcome to Middle School Science with Ms. Richards. I am very excited about the upcoming school year. I know that if we work together, we will have a product and fun year. Our classroom will be a place where we will learn about different sciences as well as expanding our science inquiry skills. The skills and knowledge that will be taught will build a strong science foundation as our students look to their future science education.

Classroom Rules

1. Follow all directions carefully the first time they are given.
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak without any class disruption.
3. Speak at appropriate times, using appropriate voices and language.
4. Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself.
5. Show respect for other people and their property and yourself.

Consequences

1. Warning – written or verbal to the student and/or parent.
2. Written assignment – ways to improve one’s behavior.
3. Silent Lunch or demerit.
4. Sent to the Principal’s office.

Student Responsibilities

- ❖ Students are expected to come to class prepared each day. Students should always bring their covered textbook, pencils, homework, folder, notebook, agenda, and journal each day to class.
- ❖ Students are expected to be on time.
- ❖ Students are expected to complete all assignments and turn them in on time (I follow middle school policy homework guidelines).
- ❖ Work turned in is expected to be neat. If I cannot read it, the student will be asked to redo it.
- ❖ Take notes in class when directed.
- ❖ Ask questions and help when needed.
- ❖ Cooperate with fellow classmates.
- ❖ When working on a lab, girls’ hair is to be pulled back for safety purposes.
- ❖ Students will follow the rules in the HRA handbook as well as any additional classroom rules.

Grading Policy

Homework	15%	Labs	15%
Tests	35%	Class Work	10%
Quizzes	15%	Journal	10%

Missed Homework Assignments While Absent

Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments and making them up within a reasonable amount of time. The day students return to school they should check the missing work folder and ask any questions. **It is important that the student does this the day they return to school, not the day they return to class, since some classes do not meet every day.**

6th Grade

6th grade is an extremely interesting year. We will start off the school year by learning lab safety and the scientific method. We will quickly move into learning about the human body. We start with the different body systems and learn a little about each system and how the body works. We then learn about how the body fights against germs and what we can do to make sure that we stay healthy. We then shift sciences a bit and start with Earth science. We learn about rocks and minerals and different processes that take place inside the Earth. We start inside the Earth and work our way to the surface. It is an exciting year as we explore the intricate workings of the Earth.

7th Grade

This year is dedicated to Life Sciences. The year starts out with lab safety and the scientific method as well. We then move onto the cell. We will learn about what makes up a cell as well as the intricate cell processes. We progress into genetics and we will be making a pedigree that will trace a trait through three generations of your family. The study of Life Science will then take us into plants, animals, and the study of ecology.

8th Grade

This year is a stimulating year as we look into the world of physical science. This year we will start talking about matter. We will take about the properties of matter and how to measure them. This will lead us into chemical reactions as we study the periodic table and do a little exploration into chemistry. After we finish with chemistry we will be taken to the stirring world of forces and motion. I look forward to helping your students discover the science in everyday living.



Junior High Social Studies Mr. Walsh

Class Descriptions:

6th Grade – We begin our journey with a study of the beginnings of human society and the earliest cultures. From there we will continue from Babylonia to Ancient Egypt, to India and Ancient China, ending the first semester with our study of the Ancient Greek and Roman civilizations. After Christmas, we move into the cultures of times that are more recent, the Mayans of Central America and the Incas of South America, the Age of Feudalism, and the Crusades. We will examine the Renaissance and sail with the early explorers. We will study the changes in the Western World, the Age of the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution. We will close out the year by undertaking the challenges that we face today with a shrinking globe, and how wars and revolutions have worldwide implications.

7th Grade – During the year we will focus on Geography and the Peoples and cultures of the world today. We will begin with developing our geography and map skills as well as exploring the various factors that affect our world. Areas that we will concentrate on include the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central America, and Brazil. We will prepare for the exam by our participation in the National Geography Bee. When we return from Christmas, we will set sail to the British Isles and the countries of Europe, an in-depth look at Russia and then off to Asia and finishing the year on the great continent of Africa. We will conclude the year by examining the history and government of our home state, Tennessee!

8th Grade – We will begin with an extensive look at the history of this great country, the United States of America! We will start from the beginnings of this land as home to the early Native Americans then continue to the Age of European exploration. As we take our shape as the thirteen original colonies, to the Road to Revolution as we strive to become independent. We continue with the early years as a country where we defined ourselves through the Constitution to the Age of Expansion under Jefferson. But wait, there's more! During the second semester, we will look at the conflict that divided this country, The American Civil War and the period of Reconstruction. We will examine our role in the Industrial Revolution and our emergence as a global power as a result of the conflicts of the 20th Century. We conclude the year with an examination of our role in the world in the 21st Century.

Classroom Requirements:

- Be Prepared
 - Bring notebook, textbook, planner, and appropriate writing tools to class.
- Be Prompt
 - Enter the classroom quietly.
 - Please be in your seat when the bell rings, as class begins at that time.
- Be a Polite and Positive Participant
 - Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
 - Speak in a normal tone of voice and listen attentively.
 - Respect the ideas and opinions of others.
- Be Productive
 - Take pride in your work, turn it in on time and always do your best.

Homework Policy:

- Students will be responsible for the chapter readings.
- All assignments should be completed and turned in on time. Should a student miss a homework or project deadline their grade will be reduced by 10% for each of the first two days the assignment is delinquent. If submitted on the third day, 50% of the grade will be deducted. Work submitted after the **third** late day will result in a zero for that assignment.
- All work should be neatly done and submitted in either pencil or blue/black ink.
- Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments and for completing all work missed due to absence from school within a timeframe established by the teacher.
- It is the student's responsibility to complete any work missed and to see that the teacher receives it.

Grading Policy:

During the course of the grading period, the student on a variety of class activities will earn multiple grades. Each assignment is important and acts as building blocks in achieving the knowledge and understanding of the topic.

A general outline of the overall weight of each marking period grade follows:

Class work	10%
Homework	20%
Projects	20%
Chapter Tests	50%

Extra Credit:

I believe that students can express their individual talents in many ways and will allow a student to complete one extra credit assignment each marking period. This "quality work" must be pre-approved by the teacher and be applied to one Chapter Test grade.

7th Grade Writing

Welcome to 7th Grade Writing with Mrs. Brennan! I am very excited about the upcoming school year. I know that if we work together it will be a very productive and fun year! Let's get started...

Classroom Rules

1. Follow all directions correctly the first time given.
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak without any class disruption.
3. Speak at appropriate times using appropriate voices and language.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. Show respect to other people and their property.

Consequences

- Warnings – written or verbal to the student and/or parent.
- Written assignment – ways to improve one's behavior
- Phone call home and/or Demerit
- Sent to the principal's office

General Information

- Students should come to class prepared each day (this includes bringing all Language Arts books, pens/pencils, notebook/folder to class).
- Students are expected to complete assignments and turn them in on time.
- Students are expected to read all assigned reading in order to fully participate in classroom learning experiences.
- Students are expected to ask questions to gain better understanding of material presented.
- Work turned in is expected to be neat. If I cannot read it, the student will be asked to redo it (this could mean a lower grade).
- Our classroom is a family environment. All students are expected to be respectful at all times.

Students in 7th grade will use the writing process to write a research paper, argumentation/persuasion, exposition, drama, thank you notes, invitation notes, business letters, narration, description, poetry, friendly letters, and learn how to answer essay questions. The students will work on an "Autobiography Scrapbook Project." This project will include some of the writing assignments mentioned above. This scrapbook will help the student to reflect on his/her life. More information about the project will be sent home in September and will be something that the student will continue working on throughout the year (with due dates throughout the year). Some photography will be required for this project.

Students will be guided through the five-step writing process:

6. Prewriting (brainstorming ideas, making a story web, organizing your thoughts, etc.)
7. Drafting (putting your ideas on paper – 1st draft)
8. Revising (-or Editing-having a peer, parent, or teacher read your paper through and help you make corrections as needed)
9. Proofreading (reading over your work one more time and making final corrections)
10. Publishing (writing your final copy in your very best handwriting or typing it)

Students will be expected to use what they have learned about grammar to improve their writing. Various writing assignments will be given throughout the year. We will work on getting started in class and the students will be given ample time to complete the assignments. Most of the time students will be given plenty of class time to complete most, if not all, of the writing assignments.

Extra Thoughts

Parents: Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions! My school email can be found on the Holy Rosary Academy website or in the Holy Rosary Academy directory.

I am so excited to be a part of Holy Rosary Academy and I cannot wait to get started on the wonderful learning opportunities each student will have! Let's have an extraordinary year!

-Mrs. Brennan

Language Arts Guidelines for 7th and 8th Grades
Mrs. Hanley

Students will receive one grade for Language Arts on their report card. This includes literature, grammar, vocabulary, writing assignments, homework, and tests.

Students should come to class prepared each day. They should bring all supplies that are needed for class when they come.

1. Reading – book they are reading, reading notebook, reading folder, blue/black pen, red pen, pencil.
2. English – English book, English notebook, English folder, blue/black pen, red pen, pencil.
3. Vocabulary Workshop – Vocabulary Workshop book, blue/black pen, red pen, pencil.
4. Writing – Writing folder – black pen, red pen, pencil
5. A book for reading should be with them at all times.

Students will read from textbooks and from paperback books. Emphasis will be placed on skills, vocabulary, spelling, and comprehension.

Writing assignments will be given throughout the year. The students will be given ample time to complete these assignments.

Students will be guided through the five-step writing process:

1. Prewriting
2. Drafting
3. Revising
4. Proofreading
5. Publishing

Students will have grammar daily and will be reminded to use what they have learned about grammar to improve their writing style.

Students are expected to do their best at all times. When homework is given, it should be done neatly and on time. Long-range assignments should be worked on throughout the grading period. **Do Not** wait until the last minute to complete the assignment.

All assignments will be completed and turned in on time.

If an assignment is missing there will be 10 points taken off the first day, 20 points the second day, and 50 points the third day. A missing assignment will not be accepted after the third day. Since the students have a week to do their *Vocabulary Workshop*, it will be graded differently.

Vocabulary Workshop will be checked each Tuesday. This will be followed by a test on Wednesday. Students will have from Wednesday until the next Tuesday to complete each unit. If the work is not completed and ready to grade on Tuesday, I will accept it the next day, but the student will receive a failing grade.

Students must bring their agenda books to class with them each day.

Spelling will count in every subject taught.

Take pride in your work. Messy papers will not be accepted. If I cannot read it, it is wrong.

**Welcome to 7th and 8th grade Math
Algebra I and Pre-Algebra Classes
Mrs. Reynolds**

Dear Students,

Welcome to a great year in math class! I am confident this will be a most successful year for you. Here is what you will need to know to be a successful math student this year.

Classroom Rules

1. Follow all written and spoken directions the **first time** they are given.
2. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
3. Speak respectfully to your classmates and me.
4. Always try to do your best in your work and in your behavior.
5. Keep the classroom neat and clean.

These classroom rules will keep you safe and help you learn. If we all do our best to follow the rules then we can create a learning environment that is positive and supportive for everyone. **If you choose to behave in ways that are contrary to anyone's safety and/or learning, then you will receive a consequence.**

Consequences will range from verbal and/or written warnings, silent lunches, and/or demerits. Your parents may be called for a conference to help you make better choices regarding your behavior or classroom performance. In more persistent or extreme cases, a referral to the principal with appropriate follow-up action may be necessary. See your handbook for further information.

Routines and Procedures

Routines and procedures will help you know **what to do** and **how to do it**.

1. Come to class prepared with textbook, notebook, pencils, homework and your **AGENDA**.
Sharpen your pencil at this time, if needed.

2. Put your homework and your agenda out on your desk and begin work immediately on the warm up exercises. I will check homework as you work on the warm-up.
3. Head your homework with your name, date, subject, and assignment in the upper right hand corner. All homework assignments written in your notebook must have this heading.
4. Scan any Accelerated Math work **before** I begin the warm-up or homework review. Hold on to any AM work you need me to see until the appropriate time in class.
5. Pay attention during the warm-up and homework review. **Ask questions if you do not understand!**
6. Take notes during the lesson. If I write it on the board, you write it in your notebook. You need your notes to help you with your homework.
7. The practice activities are your chance to practice a new skill on your own before you leave class. Do your best and ask questions or get help if you need it.
8. **Write the homework assignment in your agenda.**
9. Be sure you have all your materials when you leave class. Please pick up any trash from the floor around you before you leave.

You will have many opportunities to begin your homework in class. This will help you practice the skill before you leave the classroom. You can show me your Accelerated Math work at this time or before homeroom begins in the morning.

Accelerated Math

Accelerated Math is a learning system we use to help build your math skills. Accelerated Math gives a student more practice in the areas needed and advancement when the student is ready. Accelerated Math is an excellent tool that can support you in learning mathematics. **The key is to DO IT!**

All students must scan their practices or exercises at least once a week to receive credit. All AM tests must be completed within 7 days of receiving it. This is the MINIMUM amount of work the student must do to receive the MINIMUM benefit. The MORE you do, the MORE your skills will improve.

Getting Help

I am available in my classroom for student help beginning at 7:15 AM to 7:45 AM. I am available after school until 4:15 pm.

Grading

This is how your math grade will be calculated:

Homework: 10%

Quiz and POTW: 35%

Tests (including AM Tests): 50%

AM Practices, Exercises, and Daily Warm Ups: 5%

Example:

If all homework is done: $100 \times 10\% = 10$

Average of Quiz/POTW: $85 \times 35\% = 29.75$

Test Average: $88 \times 50\% = 44.0$

AM Practices/Warm Ups: $79 \times 5\% = 3.95$

Total: $(10+29.75+44+3.95) = 87.70$

Your grade would be an 88 for the quarter.

Last Thoughts

I hope this guide will help you become a stronger and more successful student. I am committed to helping you achieve and love math 110%! I expect the same level of commitment from you. Just do the best you can and I promise you, you will be a very successful math student.

Middle School Policy Signature Form

Dear Parents and Students,

Knowing the policies and procedures for HRA Middle School is key to being a successful student. Please review this guide carefully as a family, even if you are a returning student and have seen this before. There are always new policies and procedures every year, and it is worth your time and effort in learning what they are. Additionally, when parents, students, and teachers know and understand what the expectations are, it makes for a much smoother academic year. The Middle School functions as a team, and we are so glad you are with us!

Sincerely,

The Middle School Teachers
2010-2011

Please sign and return this page to your homeroom teacher **no later than Tuesday, August 30, 2011**. Your **signatures** indicate that you have read the Middle School Policy and have agreed to abide by it.

Student(s) **print** _____

Student(s) **sign** _____

Parent(s) **print** _____

Parent(s) **sign** _____