

Welcome to Eighth Grade!

Classroom Rules:

Arrive on time with all of your materials
Remain silent while the teacher or a classmate is talking
Remain in seat unless given permission to move
Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
Talk respectfully – no put downs, interruptions, or arguing

Mrs. Jefferis
St. Ignatius School
2010-2011

Consequences for Classroom Rule Violations:

Verbal reminder	Time owed during break
Seating change	Parent contact

Dress Code:

Please take time to read pages 42 and 43 of the Student/Parent Handbook.
Remember – no tank tops may be visible under polo shirts, socks must be worn, non school uniform sweaters, sweatshirts, and jackets may not be worn inside any classroom. Any student not following the dress code will be given a dress code violation slip and asked to return to their homeroom teacher for follow up.

Materials:

You will need to take the following basic supplies with you to each class:

- College ruled notebook
- paper
- Blue/ black pen
- Red correcting pen
- Highlighter
- Planner
- Additional supplies as requested by other teachers

Heading:

Paper with no heading will be returned and receive a 15% reduction as late work.

Right side of paper: First and last name

Date

Subject

Left side of paper: Assignment title or page number

Assignment Notebooks

Assignment notebooks are very helpful in teaching the organization skills that you will need in high school. I will require you to buy the school assignment book to keep track of your assignments. I will be checking these from time to time and encouraging your parents to ask for them as well.

Absences:

You must make up any missed work when absent from class. If you are absent, work can be obtained from other students or by asking the teacher. For each day absent, you have 2 school days to make up the work. In the event of a prearranged absence, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with the teacher to “make up” missed work upon return.

Late Work Policy:

Late work receives 15% grade reduction (except for absences) and may be turned in up to one week late. A paper is late if it is not handed in at the time I call for it, including papers that may need to be printed. **Late work will not be accepted after one week.**

Grading:

Grades will be determined on a straight percentage scale, based on the total number of points possible. Following is the grading scale.

A+ 100%	B+ 94%	C+ 83%	D+ 73%
A 96%-99%	B 85%-93%	C 75%-82%	D 65%-72%
A- 95%	B- 84%	C- 74%	D- 64%

Character Traits

This year we have set up a school wide program to promote positive character in all of our students. There will be a few assemblies to motivate and educate students, and we will be keeping track in class when we see Eighth Graders exhibit these traits.

- Sincerity
- Perseverance
- Generosity
- Industrious
- Justice
- Optimism

Mass of the Holy Spirit

The 8th grade is in charge of the Mass of the Holy Spirit, the first Mass of the school year on Friday, September 15th at 1:00 pm in the church. At this time, each eighth grader will be commissioned as a leader of the school and will be blessed as you begin your studies in preparation of Confirmation.

Community Outreach

The entire 8th grade class will be volunteering at Blanchet House in Northwest Portland. Blanchet House provides food, clothing, and shelter to Portland’s homeless community. Each month, a third of the class will prepare, serve, and clean up after a meal for the residents. We will then stay to join the staff for lunch.

Please be sure not to order Hot Lunch on a day you will be going to Blanchet House.

- September 20th
- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 13th
- January 10th
- February 28th
- March 14th
- April 18th
- May 16th

Transition Projects

Each 8th grader will help to prepare or serve a meal for transition projects. This is a great way for you to live out the lessons you are learning both here and at home. In addition, this kind of activity is one of the things that high school admissions directors look at in trying to assess a student for placement and/or scholarship aid.

High School Visits and Open Houses – September 28, 2010

Each of the area Catholic high schools will be making a presentation to the eighth grade.

High School Placement Exam – December 4, 2010

Eighth Grade Visits to High Schools

All Catholic high schools offer a time for eighth graders to spend a day at the high school they are considering. Each high school has their own schedule for how and when these visits are to take place. I will keep a calendar in the classroom listing planned visits. Please check the calendar and confirm your visit with me to ensure that no more than two students are missing class on a given day.

Eighth Grade Retreat – September 17, 2010

Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

We will be going on a field trip with the first grade to the Pumpkin Patch in October, and will also participate in a follow-up lesson on weighing the pumpkins, counting the seeds, and decorating the pumpkin face with your first grade partner.

Class Sweatshirts

It is an 8th grade privilege to design and wear a class sweatshirt. We will make a design decision and order sweatshirts in October.

Graduation – June 7, 2011