

Late Summer 2012

Dear Parents and Students,

In preparing for another terrific school year, I've compiled some important information about science class. I strive to present science in an active, hands-on manner that I hope will result in a rewarding and enjoyable experience. I firmly believe that my efforts in the classroom are most effective when students take responsibility for their learning and when students receive active support at home so I hope this information provides a foundation for success.

• **CURRICULUM TOPICS**

Science is more than memorizing a set of vocabulary words; it is a way of thinking about our world.

Science Processes and Technology Waves & Energy
Physical & Chemical Properties and Changes in Matter
Structures and Processes of Living Things
Fluid Earth Systems and Human Activities

• **SUPPLY LIST**

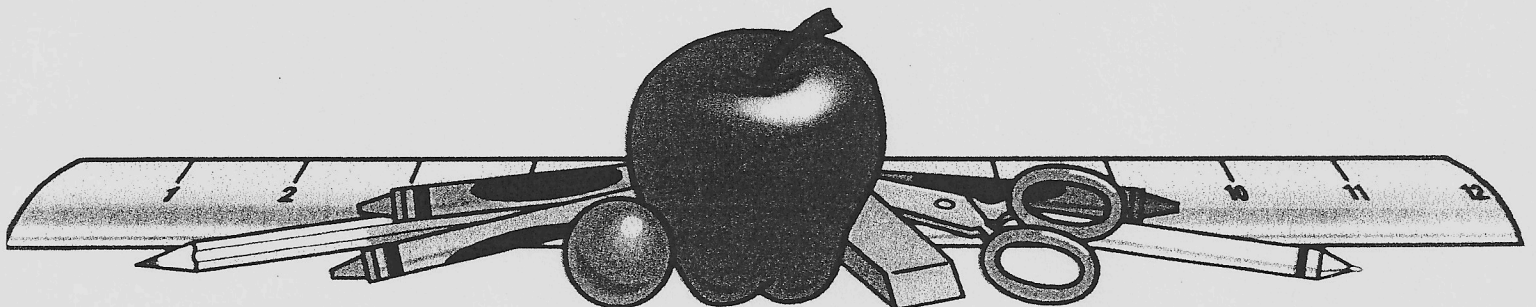
Staying organized is a crucial factor in success. Students must bring these EVERY DAY:

1. A well stocked pencil pocket with pencils, pens, and a highlighter EVERY DAY
2. Harper Woods Daily Planner EVERY DAY
3. Index 3x5 cards (200 minimum)

• **CLASS DISCIPLINE** (R-E-S-P-E-C-T is a two-way street!)
These ground rules are foundational to our work together.

1. Follow directions the first time.
2. Be seated, prepared for class, by the starting time.
3. Business office noise level.
4. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. No putdowns.

As problems arise, the consequences outlined in the student handbook apply, but each day brings a fresh start.



- **HOMEWORK**

“I don’t have any” or “I got it all done in class” are common responses kids give when asked about homework. Too often parents feel that there is no way of verifying assignments, so that’s where the subject ends . . . until conference time or report cards arrive! YIKES!

Parent involvement is crucial to student success so I regularly prepare a **monthly science calendar** of key assignments and encourage students’ **daily** use of their **school planner** to record coursework so parents can support learning.

- **COMMUNICATION**

Please send your email address and cell phone numbers with your child on the first day so I can have them on file.

You will hear about your child’s progress regularly throughout the year (progress reports and report cards]. Beyond that, please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

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- **MICHIGAN STATE STUDENT INTERN**

Ms. Alexandra Beels will be co-teaching with me during this school year. She can be reached at alexandra.beels@hwoods.k12.mi.us

I love what I do – I truly enjoy working with middle schoolers – and I look forward to this school year!

Sincerely,



June Teisan

HWMS – Science

Nationally Board Certified Educator

Presidential Awardee for Michigan in Science PAEMST 2005

Michigan Teacher of the Year 2007-2008

National Teacher of the Year Finalist 2008

P.S. Our science students collect **General Mills BoxTops** . . .
Your contributions are appreciated!!