7th Grade Science: ***Whale Sharks*** 

# Dear Parent/Guardian:

 I would like to welcome you and your student to the 7th grade! Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Ms. Williams and this is my second year teaching at St. Lucie West K-8. Last year, you may have seen me with the 5th grade team, but this year I am excited to finally be part of the Middle School environment with your child. I graduated from California University of Pennsylvania (an accredited school for the education field) with a Bachelor’s Degree in the Science of Education: Concentration in Elementary Education K-6. I also have a Minor’s Degree in Liberal Arts: Concentration in the Science of Psychology. Teaching and science has always been a love of mine and so I am thrilled to be sharing my knowledge and passion with the students this year. It is my belief that everyone would love science as much as I do if they were given the tools and opportunities to feel successful at it. I strive to reach each student, every day with hands-on activities, collaborative learning, and an up-to-date interactive/technology approach. I also am a strong believer in a positive, safe, friendly, and interactive learning environment. This year my goal as an educator is to help motivate and encourage students to challenge themselves. Without a challenge, life would be rather dull and meaningless. Every child, each day, will be given opportunities to go above and beyond what is necessary so that everyone can meet their full potential.

**Classroom website:**

 My classroom website will become a very valuable too this year for the success of your child(ren). This site will be updated DAILY to include all classwork assignments, homework assignments, extra credit, “Science Buddies”, Science Fair project information, NEED project information, and parental involvement activities. As per school district policies, no student pictures will be included on my website whatsoever. If a student wishes to have his or her notebook/project displayed for view on the website (as a good example), then they may! My goal is to allow students to “publish” their work to share and celebrate their success with their friends and family if they chose to do so. I find that students take great pride in their projects, labs, and interactive notebooks and love to see their work published online. **Please make sure you express to me on the back of this form if you do or do not wish to have your student’s work published.**

 I am looking forward to a fun filled school year and plan on making science your student’s new favorite subject! Please feel free to email me at: jami.williams@stlucieschools.org with any questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have.

 Sincerely,

**Required Materials:**

1. **One Composition Notebook** (designated as our “Interactive Notebook”)
**BRING ON THE FIRST DAY!!**
2. **Dry Erase Marker** (Expo Markers) (Skinny or regular size)
3. **One Trifold Board or Poster Board** (for Science Fair, kept/completed at home)
4. **A Student Planner/Agenda** (Available to purchase at school store: $4)
5. \*Feel free to bring your own crayons/markers for our notebooks (or use mine)

**\*Note:** Students who miss any assignments or tests are given only **24 hours** to make up their work. Try to check my website when you know they will be absent to have your child keep up.

***“It is easier to keep up than to catch up!”***

***Our Class Website:*** [***http://MySci7.weebly.com***](http://MySci7.weebly.com)

**Tune in on Twitter*: @MsJamiWilliams***

**\*Please check the class website for**: surveys, polls, daily lessons, extra material, classroom buddy projects, interactive notebook information, contact information, and updates!

**\*Please follow me on TWITTER** **for**: classroom discussions, fun science challenge questions, science updates, fun science facts, information on Science Fair, Motivational pictures and quotes…. And to be part of an on-going science-loving community!

*Because I believe that education is a partnership between home and school, please check any ways you could/would be interested in being involved with occasionally.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Guest Speaker \_\_\_ | Donate Materials/Supplies\_\_\_\_ | Assist in Classroom Projects\_\_\_ |
| Organize Fundraisers \_\_\_\_ | Help During Fundraisers \_\_\_\_\_ | Tutor After School \_\_\_\_\_ |

**SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please write the amount of time you plan on spending this year helping your student complete their science fair project at home:** | **Time Anticipated:**  |

**PUBLISHING PREFERENCES:**

Your student has an opportunity to have their work “published” on our classroom website at <http://www.mysci7.weebly.com> The photos taken of the students work/interactive notebook/ projects/ science fair boards will not include an actual picture of the students. This site will also not be given to any other source and used for educational purposes only. Please sign your name in the box below to express your permission for Ms. Williams to publish your student’s work if the student wishes for their work to be placed on the website.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **YES, I WOULD** like to grant Ms. Williams my full permission to post my student’s classwork, interactive notebook, lab work, science projects, etc. onto the classroom website if my student wishes to do so.Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **NO, I WOULD NOT** like to grant Ms. Williams my full permission to post my student’s classwork, interactive notebook, lab work, science projects, etc. onto the classroom website if my student wishes to do so.Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |