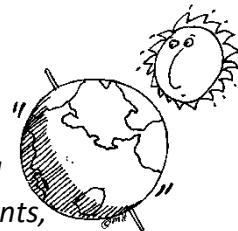


Welcome to 6th Grade Earth Science



Teacher: Ms. Sabrina Struss

Email Address: sstruss@cartersvilleschools.org

To Contact Me: *Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. I will get back with you as soon as possible. Success in science is a partnership between students, teachers, and parents.*

Course Description: We will be studying Earth Science this year, as defined by the Georgia Science Standards of Excellence. Some of the topics that we will learn about include Geology, Astronomy, and Meteorology. Ms. Struss likes to incorporate various teaching methods into the curriculum. Students can look forward to keeping a personalized science journal, using the Recordex, and playing review games on a consistent basis.

6th Grade Earth Science Standards of Excellence

- S6E1.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about current scientific views of the universe and how those views evolved.
- S6E2.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the effects of the relative positions of the sun, Earth, and moon.
- S6E3.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to recognize the significant role of water in Earth processes.
- S6E4.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about how the sun, land, and water affect climate and weather.
- S6E5.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to show how Earth's surface is formed.
- S6E6.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the uses and conservation of various natural resources and how they impact the Earth.

Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum: Informational reading and writing are essential skills for success in all areas. Each student will have a Science Journal used to record written notes and respond to science topics. Students will be assigned reading tasks as homework on a regular basis.

Evaluation: In the science department, we use many forms of assessment to evaluate student understanding. Our grading is divided into two main categories:

- **Formative Assessments-** 40% of the total average (includes individual and group assignments, quizzes, daily work, homework, etc.)
- **Summative Assessments-** 60% of the total average (tests/exams, and major projects)

You are encouraged to track your child's progress on the computer using PowerSchool. See the CMS front office if you have not yet picked up your login information.

Preparation and Participation: Class preparation and participation are imperative to your success in the classroom. Students will be required to bring their science textbook, pencil, colored pencils, and science journal to class every day. Students are expected to complete all classwork and homework assignments. Failure to complete a required assignment can result in behavior consequences.

Resources:

- **Quizlet:** Quizlet is a fantastic vocabulary review program! Quizlet allows multiple study options including flipping through flashcards and playing games. It can be accessed by computer (Quizlet.com), or by smartphone (You will need to download the free Quizlet app.). Type *canes6* as the username, to access Earth Science vocab terms and definitions.
- **Textbook:** *Pearson Interactive Earth Science*. Students are responsible for lost or damaged textbooks.
- **Destiny:** Our school website provides a wealth of information. You may login to Destiny through our school website and search all of our media center resources. There, you can find books, articles, and websites on a broad spectrum of topics.

Classroom Management:

To set clear expectations, maximize instruction time, and keep your child safe, CMS has implemented the following infraction policy:

- Infraction #1- Parent Contact
- Infraction #2- Silent Lunch/Parent Contact
- Infraction #3- Team Forum/In-Team Suspension/Parent Contact
- Infraction #4- Pre-Office Referral/Parent Contact
- Infraction #5 – Office Referral/Parent Contact



Communication with Parents:

Parent/Teacher interaction is vital to your child's success as a student. We use several tools to communicate with parents.

- Infinite Campus: Infinite Campus allows parents to access their children's grades in all subject areas. If you do not have your child's login and password, please contact the front office. Infinite Campus can be accessed through the Cartersville School System website (www.cartersvilleschools.org/CMS).
- Individual Teacher Websites: Each teacher has designed a website to include important information. Teacher websites can be accessed through the Cartersville School System website. See "School Staff" for a list of individual teachers' names.
- Student Agendas: All CMS students will be given their own agenda where they are responsible for writing down daily assignments. Please check your child's agenda **nightly** for homework assignments and upcoming tests/projects and initial that you have viewed it each day.
- Progress Reports: CMS sends home progress reports every four weeks. Please review the report with your child, sign it, and send it back on the next school day.
- Report Cards: At the end of every quarter, your child will bring home a report card with his/her final average for each class. Please review the report with your child, sign it, and send it back on the next school day.
- Teacher Email: You can find email addresses for all of your child's teachers on the Cartersville Middle School Website.
- Blackboard messaging system: Blackboard is a program that allows teachers to remind parents and students about upcoming assignments and other important information via email &/or text messages. Messages will be sent to numbers and emails on file with the office as student information.

Late Work Policy:

Students are encouraged to turn in all assignments completed and on time. The 6th grade has implemented the following policy concerning late assignments:

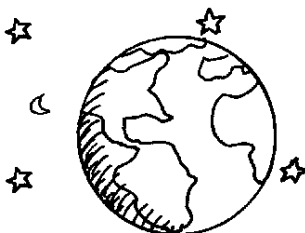
First Term- 10 point penalty if assignment is turned in within a week of the original due date

Second Term- 20 point penalty if assignment is turned in within a week of the original due date

Third and Fourth Terms- 30 point penalty if assignment is turned in within a week of the original due date

*****Note: Assignments that are not turned in within a week of the original due date will result in a zero*****

If there is any other way we can be of assistance to you or your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to a great year learning science together!



_____ (Parent or guardian's signature)

_____ (Student's signature)