

Welcome to Hammarskjold!

September, 2008

Dear Parents and Family:

Welcome to Hammarskjold Middle School's Sixth Grade! I'm excited about the opportunity of getting to know each student, and I'm looking forward to a productive school year working with you. It is an adventure that we will embark on together as we meet new friends and faces, learn new skills, and experience new challenges. I believe that what happens here affects each student's future.

I anticipate an exciting year in which to learn and grow together. The year will be filled with many challenging and exciting activities from our classroom and school environs to our outdoor education trips. I hope to instill a love of learning that will last through years of schooling to come. I value each student as an individual and will encourage each to become more active learners, taking responsibility for choices, and developing decision-making skills towards positive behavior. My goal is to provide a safe environment in which to learn.

During the first days of school, we will review general procedures and expectations of discipline, homework, and organization - all of which will remain consistent throughout the year. I ask that the students always put forth their best effort.

We have a fantastic group of students this year, and I look forward to a terrific year. With your help, we can make it happen. I ask for your support and cooperation as we work together for each student's success. Staying involved in your child's education is the key to a successful year. I invite you all to attend **Back-to-School Night on Monday, October 6**, for further information.

I thank you for your anticipated support and cooperation. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me by calling (732) 613-6890. I look forward to meeting you and a wonderful partnership!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Josephine Skwish
House 1 Science Teacher



Classroom Guidelines and Information

Required Materials for Science Class

Please encourage your child to be prepared for school with the appropriate materials. Students should bring the following items every time we meet:



- One marble composition notebook (100 sheets)
- Unit-of-study packets (handed out in class)
- One pocket folder for loose-leaf paper, handouts, and homework
- Pens (black or blue ONLY), pencils, and highlighters
- Large/Extra-Large ZipLoc (or similar) bags
- One pack of 4" x 6" index cards
- One pack of 3" x 3" Post-Its
- Scotch (clear) tape
- One clipboard (for field trips)



Grading Scale

According to district policy, each student will receive marks each marking period for the following categories:

Tests	50%
Quizzes, Projects & Graded Work	40%
Homework	10%

Homework Policy

Homework is an important way to reinforce work habits as well as concepts taught in class. Most assignments are due the next day unless otherwise indicated. **The students should hand in homework that is neat (e.g. no rips, tears, or wrinkles please) and thorough; typed or written assignments done on loose-leaf paper in black/blue ink are preferred.** If an assignment is not completed on time, the student will receive a “zero” and be given an opportunity to claim half credit by turning in the assignment the next day. **Missing assignments will be noted in the agenda.** Repeatedly missed homework will result in a house detention after school. **It is also your responsibility to check for missed assignments and notes when you return from an absence.**

Contact information for Mrs. Skwish

Phone: (732) 613-6890, x4361 (voicemail)
Email: jlaiskwish@ebnet.org
Homework: ParentConnect (falcon.ebnet.org)



Please feel free to contact me about any questions and concerns about school, or drop me a note about an extracurricular interest. I would also love to hear from you! I look forward to working together with you!

I have read the 2008-2009 House 1 Science Guidelines and Procedures with my child.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____