



St. Agnes Junior High (SAJH)
6981 Mumford Road,
Halifax, NS, B3L 2H7
Phone: (902) 493-5132
Fax: (902) 493-5140



Subject Science 8

Teacher :

Chris Carter (801, 802, 803)

Kelly O'Brien (804)

Name: Chris Carter & Kelly O'Brien

Course: Grade 8 Science

Email: christopher.carter@hrce.ca or kelly.obrien@hrce.ca

Google Classrooms code:

804 Science: qi3sppv

Method of Communication

A collaborative effort of all stakeholders (student / guardian/ teacher/ resource) is important to ensure student academic success. To maintain communication, here are ways I will communicate with you and your child:

Google Classroom Website: Updated frequently with class notes and assigned work. Students are expected to copy all notes from missed days, and to complete the assigned work for those days.

Parent/ Student Portal of Powerschool: Marks and attendance can be checked at any time. (If you do not have a password for the portal, please contact the main office).

Email: Guardians and students are encouraged to contact me via HRCE email (above) if they have any concerns regarding academic progress. I will be happy to schedule a phone call or meeting to discuss issues that arise.

I will contact home if: I am concerned about student achievement, work ethic, or classroom behaviour.

Course Introduction

An important and universal goal of science education is to equip learners with an understanding of the roles that science and technology play in society. The Nova Scotia science curriculum aims to develop learners' Scientific Literacy and their ability to problem solve and apply the principles of scientific inquiry to real-world situations and familiar problems. In doing so, learners will develop skills and competencies. Additionally, Science 8 seeks to develop scientific literacy through designing and building for technological innovation, writing for scientific communication and data analysis.

Specific Curriculum Outcomes can be found here:

<https://curriculum.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/documents/curriculum-files/Science%208%20Guide%20%282022%29.pdf>

Evaluation

Parents and students please to refer to the Student Assessment Policy;

<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/studentassessmentpolicyen.pdf>

Classroom Assessment Due Date and Extension Procedures

<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/studentassessmentpolicyclassroomassessmentduedateextensionproceduresen.pdf>

Grading: Numerical grades will be recorded on the students report card. Individual assessments will use the 4 point rubric below and will reflect their performance on individual assessments and evaluations in reference to the demonstration of the learning outcomes and the specified criteria. Term and year end grades will reflect the overall performance on assessments and evaluation throughout the course of study.

Through the school year the following 4-point rubric will be used to communicate student's performance towards achieving specific outcomes in the Grade 8 science curriculum.

4	In-depth knowledge and understanding of content and concepts. Able to extend the application of related skills.
3+	Competent +
3	Competent knowledge and understanding of content and concepts. Appropriate application of the related skills.
2+	Developing +
2	Developing knowledge and understanding of content and concepts. Developing in the application of the related skills
1+	Limited +
1	Limited knowledge and understanding of content and concepts. Limited application of related skills.

Assessment Practice

Assessment will take many forms in Science 8 including but not limited to:

Formative Assessment – Discussion, KWL Charts, Conferences, Self-evaluation, Questioning, Conversations, Entrance/ Exit Cards, Observations

Summative Assessment – Entrance/ Exit Cards, Probes, Quizzes, In Class Assignments, Projects, Labs, Tests

Creating Opportunities for Success

Students are expected to behave in an appropriate manner and allow themselves to be successful in the course. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Attending class and being on time for class.
- Respecting yourself and others.
- Creating and maintaining a safe place for everyone in the classroom.
- Taking notes and being engaged in the learning process. This involves asking questions to peers and to the teacher, participating in discussions and accepting others' opinions.
- Not using phones, tablets, computers during class time except as directed
- Completing all assigned homework and respecting due dates
- Catching up on any work when absent. Class notes should be on our Google Classroom.

- Checking our google classroom regularly.
- Keep all work organized, and put away materials before leaving class.

Course Supplies

- Paper
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Coloured pencils or markers
- Binder
- Calculator

Classroom Expectations and Norms

- Students must be present and on time for class.
- Students must show respect for others, yourself and property in the classroom.
- Students must raise their hand and ask permission to leave the classroom.
- Generally speaking, 5 minutes is enough time when leaving the classroom (i.e., bathroom).
- Students are expected to keep their cell phone on silent/ vibrate in the cell hotel during class time.
- Students are responsible for all work missed when absent.
 - Students are responsible for checking Google Classroom for the daily notes.
 - Students are responsible for making arrangements for any missed assessment.

Additional Information

Absences: In the event of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to learn the material covered in class, to get the notes from another student, check Google Classroom for updates and to complete the work assigned for that day. Any quizzes, tests and assessments must be made up as soon as possible. Please note, formative assessments take place daily and culminate with summative assessments. All forms of assessment take place during instructional time. If students are absent, they miss the opportunity for these assessments as they take place in class during instructional time. If you are aware of an absence ahead of time, notify your teacher directly and contact the absent line.

Student Resources: Students have access to a number of print and digital visual and text resources, in addition to the textbook. Additional resources include Homework Hub and Khan Academy.

Google Classroom: All students should have joined their Science 8 Google class. All communication as it relates to assessments, at home practice and any important dates will be communicated through Google classroom.

Extra Help: Students are encouraged to come to extra help from 11:20am - 12:00pm in Mr. Carter's room on Tuesdays and Ms. O'Brien's room on Thursdays. Students are welcome to bring their lunch and eat it in the class.

We look forward to working with you and your students to ensure a successful academic year.

Sincerely,

Chris Carter & Kelly O'Brien

