

Mr. Blankenship
8th Grade Science
Los Coches Creek Computer Science and Media Arts (CSMA) Magnet
Middle School
9669 Dunbar Lane, El Cajon, CA 92021
(619) 938-8600

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Los Coches Creek CSMA Magnet Middle School! I am very happy to have your child in my class and look forward to having a fantastic school year. My goal is to provide your child with support, encouragement, and motivation to be successful in science this year. Below you will find important information and my expectations in regards to homework, classwork, turn in policy, etc.

Classwork is broken down into two types of assignments; classwork and major projects. Classwork will be from student discussions, labs, short response writing to major projects that might take a week or longer to complete. A lot of the work will be guided instruction with about 15% of each assignment independent to check for understanding/comprehension of the material being taught. In an attempt to reduce the use of Chromebooks and the distractions that are contained within them (games, access to music, videos, etc.) the vast majority of class assignments will be on paper with students using either pencil or pens to respond to questions. The assignments will be fully explained with clear due dates. Many of the assignments will have a digital simulation portion which means students will still be using their Chromebooks and as such need to be charged and ready to go when the lesson calls for it. **It is the students responsibility to check in with me if absent OR if he/she doesn't understand the lesson given.** Assignments, while a physical copy, will be listed in your child's Google Classroom to assist with what he/she might have missed when absent. Students are given two weeks to complete any missing assignment due to an absence UNLESS the assignment is a major project where students have been working IN CLASS for over a week. Major projects will have a letter sent home informing parents of the assignment and its expectations with a required parent signature. It is very important that students do their best on all assignments and turn them in on time. **REMEMBER THAT ZEROS ARE DETRIMENTAL TO A STUDENT'S GRADE!**

Homework - There will be no homework assigned in science. However please be aware that students who do not complete their classwork are expected to complete the assignment at home and turn it in the very next school day.

Grades are updated by Friday and posted on iGrade Plus. I will provide parents and students with access to the grade portal. The reason I DO NOT use Zangle is because iGrade Plus allows me to send out weekly grade reports, which I will do each Friday afternoon along with a weekly informational message. Students who earn 70% or less will have comments in iGrade Plus explaining the earned score.

Cell phones are to be turned off and stored in the backpack until the end of the school day and smart watches must be in a position where they operate ONLY as a watch. Please do not text/call your child. If you need to get ahold of your child contact the office and your message will be sent to the classroom.

The grading system is as follows:

98 – 100	A+	Tests and Major Projects are weighted and are worth more than other classwork.
93 - 97	A	
90 - 92	A-	
88 – 89	B+	Citizenship grades are based on student in class behavior and following classroom rules
83 - 87	B	
80 - 82	B-	
78 -79	C+	
72 – 77	C	
70 - 73	C-	
68 – 69	D+	
63 - 67	D	
60 - 62	D-	
0 – 59	F	

Students are expected to follow school and classroom rules at all times.

Classroom Rules

1. Keep hands, feet, and objects to ourselves
2. Come prepared to work
3. Be respectful of everyone
4. Try your best
5. Be a good role model

Student Expectations

1. Bring all materials needed to be successful in class including a charged Chromebook.
2. Practice active listening (eyes on presenter, silent hands, ears listening, no talking to others).
3. Ask questions when you don't understand or need clarification.
4. Complete ALL assignments and homework as assigned
5. Work with others and respect their ideas, thoughts, opinions.
6. Make up all missed work when absent from class.
7. Always ask for help when needed.
8. Be in your seat when the bell rings ready to learn and wait to be dismissed to leave.

If you have any questions or need to contact me please call (619) 938-8600 or email me at blankenship@cajonvalley.net. I look forward to working with you and your child.

Please be sure to complete and return the attached page to acknowledge receipt of this letter. Can't wait for an awesome school year!

Trevor Blankenship
8th Grade Science
blankenship@cajonvalley.net



Student First and Last Name - Print

Parent(s) Contact Information:

(Parent name)

(Relationship)

Phone number: _____

Email: _____
Please write the email address very clearly.

(Parent name)

(Relationship)

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Any concerns to be aware of (medical, difficulties, or needs)

We understand the information provided in Mr. Blankenship's back to school letter.

Student signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Record of Parent Communication (Emails, Notes, Etc.)

[illegible]