

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am pleased and honored to have your child this year! I look forward to working with both you and your child to ensure his/her academic success. This year, we will concentrate on building a solid foundation in the principles and processes of science as well as start to prepare our students to the high demands they will encounter in high school. The curriculum this year includes modern and classic topics in physical science. Students tend to find topics in physical science harder to grasp. Every student will have to work hard since I have very high expectations of each and every one of my students. The topics that I expect to cover this year are:

- Introduction to Chemistry
 - Safety
 - Structure of matter
 - Conservation of Matter
 - States of matter
 - Physical and Chemical changes
 - The periodic table of elements
 - Bonding and chemical reactions
 - Acid base reactions
- Introduction to Physics
 - Mechanics – Motion and Forces
 - Waves, Sound, and Light
 - Thermodynamics – Energy
- Environmental Science
 - Natural Resources and Human Needs
 - Environmental Issues

To help ensure a successful school year, please read the following information, and SIGN and Return page 3. **Failure to sign and return page 3 does not excuse your child or you from responsibility of adhering to all rules and requests.**

CLASS SUPPLIES

Each student is asked to bring the following materials with him/her to class every day:

- a pen
- 12 pencils with eraser
- a binder with line paper
- graph paper
- a calculator
- a ruler

CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to abide by the Cross Country Code of Conduct at all times. In addition, students will be required to abide by the following non-negotiable classroom rules:

Classroom Rules

- Show respect to yourself, your teachers, and others.
- Do your best to succeed.
- Clean up after yourself and take care of our classroom.

Classroom procedures

1. When students come into the class, they will begin answering the drill questions immediately and silently.
2. If a student needs to leave his/her seat, he/she must ask for permission.
3. Raise your hand if you wish to be recognized.

4. Students will be dismissed at the end of the period by teacher. Tables must be clean before dismissal.
5. Homework will be given 2-4 times a week. The homework must be completed on time. A student who is absent will have to makeup homework (one day to makeup for each day of absent, but no more than 3 days).

HOMework, CLASSWORK, AND TEST/QUIZ POLICY

The purpose of homework is to provide students with practice and reinforcement of class material, as well as prepare for material to be presented the next day in class.

Please check your child's notebook frequently to be sure he/she is keeping up with the assignments. Homework is posted online: mrvaday.neocities.org

Timed drills will be given at the beginning of each class and periodically collected and checked for a grade. Quizzes will be given **every** Friday, and comprehensive tests will be given at the end of each chapter/unit. Missed quizzes/tests must be made up after school. The student will be given one week to make up the quiz/test – if the quiz/test is not made up within this time frame, the student will be given a zero.

***Note: Due to deadlines for grades, makeup times may be shortened at the end of a marking period.**

GRADES (per district)

Class work	15%
Assessment	70%
Homework	5%
Participation	10%

MAKE-UP WORK / LATE WORK POLICY

Work must be turned in on time at the beginning of the period to receive full credit. Late work will not be accepted for credit. This is done as a matter of fairness to those students who manage their time responsibly and turn in their assignments on time. Assignments that are not turned in and completed within one day past the assigned due date will no longer be accepted – therefore, it is imperative that students turn in work in a timely manner.

Make-up work will be made available for students who are legally absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to find out what he/she missed while absent from school and get the work that he/she needs to make up. A log of daily assignments, as well as hard copies of the assignments themselves, will be available in class for student access.

COACH CLASS Thursday 9:00 – 9:30. Or by appointment

HOW TO REACH ME

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time, or visit me in class (advance notice is greatly appreciated). You can reach me via email or telephone. My contact information is listed below:

Email: svaday@bcps.k12.md.us

Telephone: (school) (410) 396-0602

Cell: (443) 857-7835

Sincerely,

Mr. Vaday