**Mrs. Hyche’s Earth Science Class**

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Welcome to Brookwood  Middle School and the 6th Grade!  My name is Mrs. Hyche, and I will be your child’s science teacher.  I am very excited about instructing your son or daughter this year!   In earth science, we will cover a number of exciting topics including weather, space, earthquakes, volcanoes, rocks, and much more.   In class, our focus will be on group collaboration, critical thinking skills, and hands-on activities to build the skills needed for a changing society while fostering social and emotional growth*.*

**A few things you need to know:**

* Students will have a science binder  in which they will record notes, lab reports, and all of their work.  Their binder will serve as their study guide for tests and quizzes. Students should also have extra pencils, colored pencils, glue stick, scissors, and a small pencil sharpener with them at all times.
* I will post assignments to Schoology for students to keep their binders up to date if they are absent, late, missing something, or working on organization.
* Any homework assignments, upcoming tests, and announcements will be sent via REMIND, the free, safe app that helps teachers connect with students and parents instantly.  Please see the attached printed instructions for signing up for the REMIND communication tool.
* We will create several projects this year, but they are done IN CLASS.
* Building character and leadership skills through P.R.I.D.E. is another topic we cover with our students throughout the year.
* **I acknowledge that an open parent-teacher relationship is the key to optimum student achievement. I care about your expectations as a parent and should you need to contact me, my email is mhyche@tcss.net              (Please allow up to 24 hours for a response).**

Guest speakers are always welcome in my classroom to discuss various science topics.  If you have a scientific background or know a family member or friend who does, contact me so we can discuss having them come speak to the students.

We only have one set of classroom science books, which will stay in class at all times.  For your convenience, I have attached a link to the e-book version for your use outside of class:

[http://www.carolinacurriculum.com/premium\_content/eBooks/Earth+Space/](http://www.carolinacurriculum.com/premium_content/eBooks/Earth%2BSpace/)

[**http://www.carolinacurriculum.com/premium\_content/ebooks/catastrophic+events/**](http://www.carolinacurriculum.com/premium_content/ebooks/catastrophic%2Bevents/)

**I’ve also included a list below of important survival tips for earth science.**

**Mrs. Hyche’s  Survival Tips for Earth Science:**

* **Show Brookwood P.R.I.D.E. in class at all times.**
	+ **P**articipation
	+ **R**esponsibility
	+ **I**ntegrity
	+ **D**edication
	+ **E**ffort
* **Use a pencil at all times because, as scientists, we will need to adjust our recorded data and observations.**
* **Keep your science notebook organized and up to date.  (Schoology will help you).**
* **Communicate any needs, concerns, problems directly with me.  I am always willing to listen and work together to help you in any way possible.**
* **Write down your homework assignments in your agenda.**
* **If you miss an assignment while absent, be sure to get it from Mrs. Hyche.**
* **Follow established lab safety rules at all times.**

**Grading Policy:**

* **Grades are calculated on a point system.  Each assignment will be worth a specific number of points.  The final grade for each nine-week grading period will be based on various methods of assessment.  Grades will consist of scores on tests and quizzes, classwork/daily grades, lab activities, drawings, and projects.  There will be a minimum of one grade per week.  Averages are calculated by dividing the total number of points received on all assignments by the total number of possible points.  Students are expected to make up all work when absent and ask for missed assignments.**

For those who might want to donate to the classroom, I have listed a few items below that would be greatly appreciated.

**Classroom needs/Wish List: (Please consider donating these household items instead of throwing them away!)**

* **Space Related Items (posters, photos, magazines, models, and etc…)**
* **Empty Film Cartridges**
* **Empty two liter bottles (all year round these are needed so please bring them in)**
* **Any science related items (fossils, rocks, magazines, etc…)**
* **Band-Aids**
* **AA Batteries**
* **Hand sanitizer**
* **Baby wipes**
* **\*Optional but greatly needed- $10.00 donation to purchase lab supplies**

Lastly, I look forward to working with your son or daughter this school year.  It is my goal for them to leave my class excited and having a passion for science!

**Sincerely,**

**Mrs. Hyche**

**I have read the information sheet and understand what is required to be a great scientist!**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What is your preferred method of contact if the need arises throughout the school year? (Please include either email address or phone number).**

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