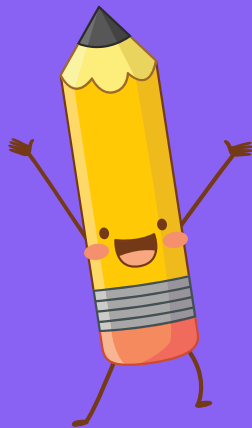


VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Middle School Science
2026-2027



WELCOME PARENTS!

- Please take a moment to review the information on the following slides.
- The following slides have been provided:
 - To help parents understand the work their child will be doing throughout the school year.
 - To explain classroom expectations for your child.
 - To share information about how parents can support their child's learning.





COURSE DESCRIPTION: 6TH GRADE SCIENCE

2002050 M/J Comprehensive Science I, Advanced

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study concepts of the life, earth/space and physical sciences, and their applications to everyday life.

You can find course curriculum descriptions on the county website: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/year-at-a-glance/wp-content/uploads/sites/101/2024/07/6th-Grade-Standard-Science-YAG.pdf>

Topics covered include the following:

Quarter 1: Nature of Science, Energy Transfer, Motion, Forces

Quarter 2: Interactions between Earth's Spheres, Earth's Atmosphere, Weather

Quarter 3: Weathering & Erosion, Landforms, Cell Theory, Structure and Function of Cells, and Homeostasis

Quarter 4: Classification, Functions of the Human Body, Infectious Agents



COURSE DESCRIPTION: 7TH GRADE SCIENCE

2002050 M/J Comprehensive Science I, Advanced

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study concepts of the life, earth/space and physical sciences, and their applications to everyday life.

You can find course curriculum descriptions on the county website: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/year-at-a-glance/wp-content/uploads/sites/101/2025/08/7th-Grade-Standard-Science-YAG.pdf>

Topics covered include the following:

Quarter 1: Nature of Science, Forms of Energy, Waves

Quarter 2: Heat and Thermal Energy, Earth's Structures, Age of the Earth

Quarter 3: Plate Tectonics, Cell Division, Genetics

Quarter 4: Ecosystems, including Food Webs and Symbiosis,
Evolution/Natural Selection, Human Impact on Earth



COURSE DESCRIPTION: 8TH GRADE SCIENCE

2002050 M/J Comprehensive Science I, Advanced

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study concepts of the life, earth/space and physical sciences, and their applications to everyday life.

You can find course curriculum descriptions on the county website: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/year-at-a-glance/wp-content/uploads/sites/101/2025/08/8th-Grade-Standard-Science-YAG.pdf>

Topics covered include the following:

Quarter 1: Nature of Science, Atoms/Subatomic Particles, Atomic Mass/Number, Periodic Table

Quarter 2: Chemical/Physical Properties and Changes, Calculating Density, Elements and Compounds, Mixtures and Pure Substances, Acids and Bases

Quarter 3: Carbon Cycle, Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration, Gravity/Mass vs. Weight, Season, Tides, Eclipses, and Phases of the Moon, The Solar System

Quarter 4: Star Properties (including the sun), Galaxies, Objects in Our Solar System, Technology in Space/The Space Industry in Florida

GENERAL INFORMATION

Textbooks

Students received a McGraw Florida Science textbook that they will be able to write and work in. Online textbook access is also available through Schoology & Clever.

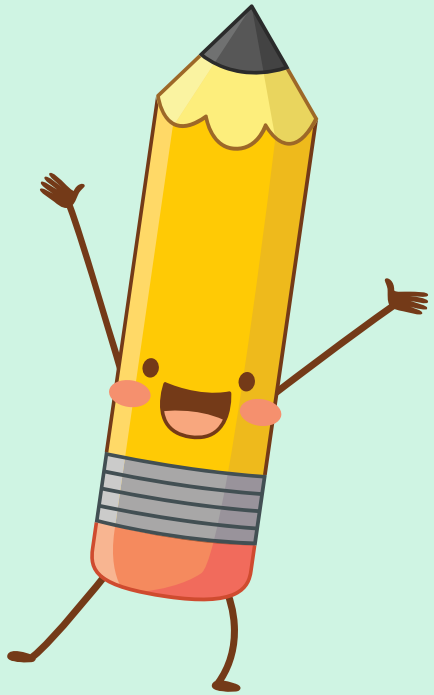
Required Materials

Students are required to bring the following materials to class every day: **academic planner**, **Science binder**, and **pencils**.

**Please consider supporting our efforts to provide engaging science lessons by donating to the Science lab. The suggested lab fee is \$25 and can be paid online via School Pay using the following link:*

<https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/Middle-School-Science-Donation>





SCHOOLOGY

Students will be responsible for checking Schoology regularly for updates, weekly agendas, and learning resources/ materials.

A weekly agenda can be found in the “**Updates**” section and classroom resources/ learning materials are located in the “**Materials**” section under “**Weekly Folders**”. The current week folder is in green and past weeks folders are black.

Please check-in with your student to make sure they know how to access these materials.

MS SCIENCE TEAM

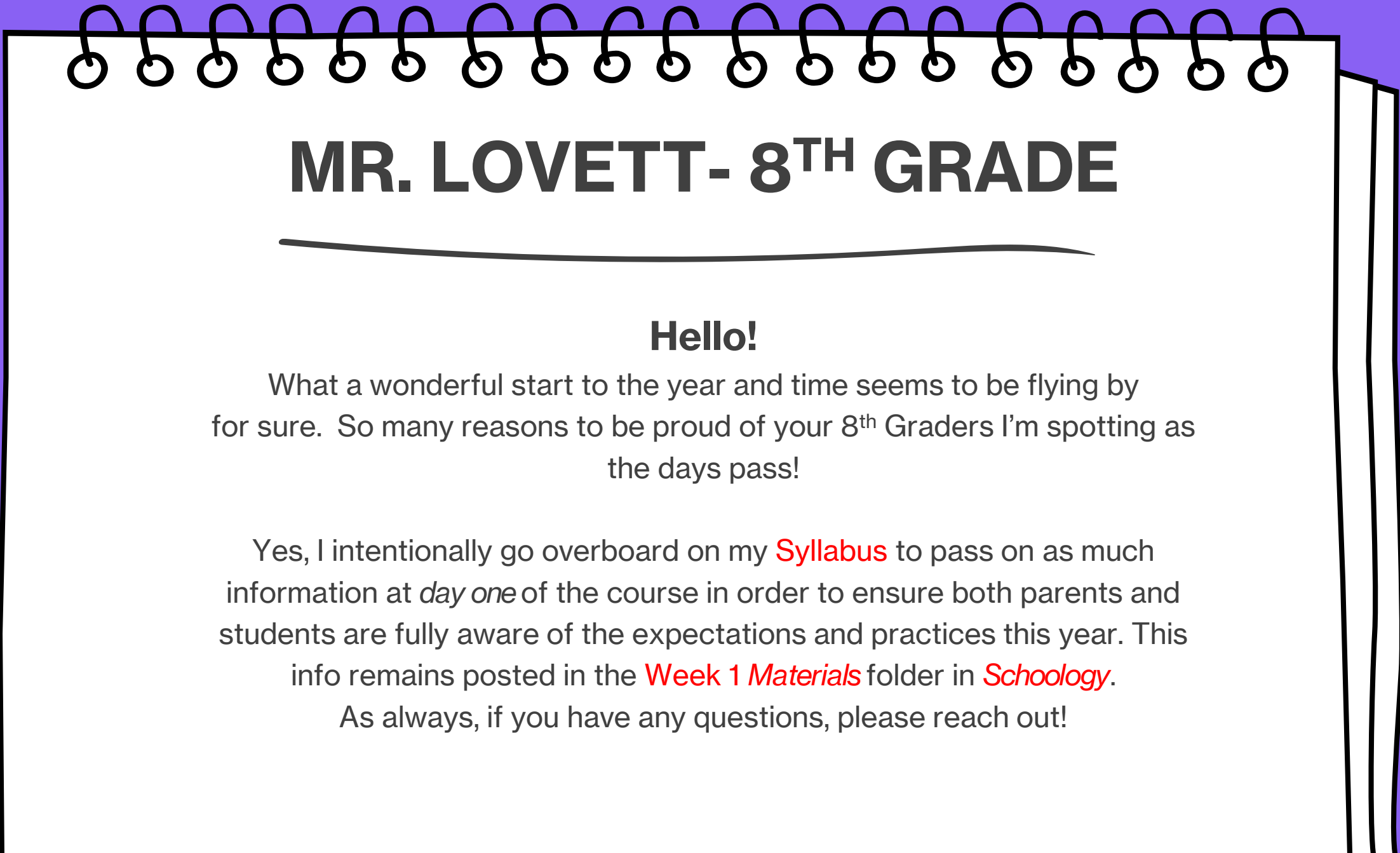
6th Grade: Ms. Bean, Ms. Bennett

7th Grade: Mrs. Hiett, Ms. Homan

8th Grade: Mr. Lovett, Mrs. Hiett

Pictured below from left to right: Mrs. Hiett, Ms. Homan, Ms. Bennett, Ms. Bean, Mr. Lovett



A graphic of a spiral-bound notebook with a white page and a purple background. The spiral binding is at the top. The text is centered on the page.

MR. LOVETT- 8TH GRADE

Hello!

What a wonderful start to the year and time seems to be flying by for sure. So many reasons to be proud of your 8th Graders I'm spotting as the days pass!

Yes, I intentionally go overboard on my **Syllabus** to pass on as much information at *day one* of the course in order to ensure both parents and students are fully aware of the expectations and practices this year. This info remains posted in the **Week 1 Materials** folder in **Schoolology**.

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out!

MR. LOVETT- 8TH GRADE

An Advanced or Honors 8th Grade Science class is going to **challenge** students and push them to really be at their best each day. We also try hard to promote higher levels of personal responsibility, open communication, independence and maturity – from this population in particular. I have evidence that this helps to ease the transition into High School, even though some temporary discomfort may arise from time to time.

MR. LOVETT- 8TH GRADE

Weekly(-ish) Parent Message: This is simply an **FYI** because I know that communication with teens at home sometimes leaves out important details...

Don't feel obligated to respond to weekly messages unless you have questions! I notice it **reduces** the number of questions, concerns and mix-ups parents may experience throughout the year.

MR. LOVETT- 8TH GRADE

Science Portfolios – I like having a clear teacher's desk! When Labs are turned in, it is my priority to grade, enter, and return them as quickly as I can. Together as a class, we discuss performance and key aspects in full, and then keep the hard copy filed safely in our portfolio binder. If a student is without a grade in HAC, the item was most likely **not received**. Additionally, students will be **very aware** if an assignment wasn't turned in (as they simply don't have the graded sheet being discussed there at their seat!) That would be their cue to spring into action and fix the situation without delay!

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MS. BEAN- 6TH GRADE

Welcome to the 2026-2027 School year. We are already off to a great start. Here are a few things to know to help your student be successful in my class.

We keep a class binder. Students are expected to keep a neat and organized science binder. Please check-in with your student to see how they are keeping up with their schoolwork

The binder should have the following tabs:

1. **Class Notes**- This is where students will keep class notes/ handouts/ Textbook pages
2. **Vocabulary**- Students will keep unit vocabulary in this section.
3. **Labs**- Current and completed labs/ lab-handouts belong in this section
4. **Test/ Quizzes**- Students should keep a portfolio of all graded quizzes (formative) and Unit Tests/ Retests (summatives)

MS. BEAN- 6TH GRADE

Class Rules

- **Be Responsible**—follow rules in the Student Handbook/Code of Conduct; Take ownership of your actions.
- **Be Respectful**—to the teacher, other students, and property.
- **Be Prepared**—come to class on time with required materials, assignments completed, and willing to learn.

Consequences include: loss of privileges, teacher/student conference, written warning (PBIS Referral), contact a parent/ Dean.

MS. BEAN- 6TH GRADES

Absences

It is the responsibility of the student to get make-up work from the teacher, Schoology, or from the corresponding class binder that will be updated daily in my classroom. It is also the responsibility of the student to check HAC for missing assignments/ grades.

Make-Up Work/ Reteach/ Remediation

Students may request reteach, remediation, or make-up work help on **Tuesdays** or **Thursdays** from **7:30-7:55** or **2:20-2:45** Students can request a time via Schoology or meet with the teacher to request a time.

MS. BEAN- 6TH GRADES

Contact

Communication between student, teacher, and parents is essential to student success! Feel free to reach out at any time at

Cynthia.bean@stjohns.k12.fl.us with questions or for more information.

If you would like to request a parent teacher conference, please send me an email to schedule a time.

MS. HOMAN- 7TH GRADE

For Students- Students will communicate with me via Schoology. Here, students can send a message directly to me. It will ping on my Schoology app and I will get a notification through my email.

For Parents-

- Parents can also contact me through Schoology.
- Parents may also contact me through my email:
 - Michelle.Homan@stjohns.k12.fl.us
- Parents are also available to request a parent teacher conference at any point during the year. Please know that whenever we conference, I will have a member of the admin team or an ESE case manager present.

Please allow up to 2 full school days for me to reply.

MS. HOMAN- 7TH GRADE

Grading

If you see a blank space in the gradebook, this means that I have added the assignment in the gradebook on my end, but I have not put in the grades for it.

If you see an INC, this means that I have the grades in, and your child is missing the assignment. They will need to complete it and turn it in.

Student will complete this at learning lunch. If they turn it in after the summative, it will be accepted at 50%

If you see an EXT, this means that I have exempted your child from this grade. This can be due to many reasons: absent, were taking a test while

MRS. HIETT- 7TH AND 8TH GRADES

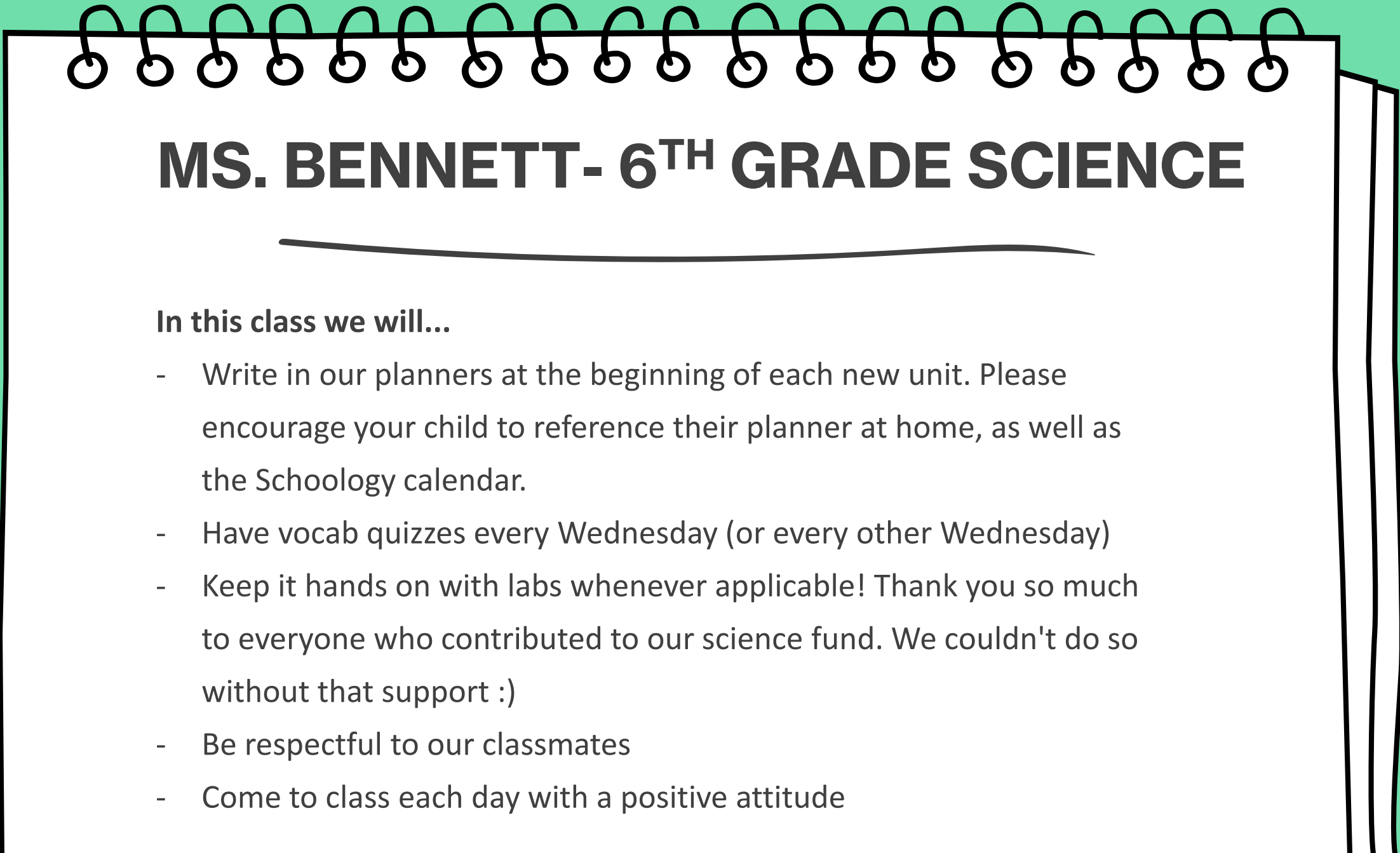
- Please use Schoology to access all class materials, including the weekly agenda, study material and book access.
- We try to keep it hands-on with labs whenever applicable! Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our science fund. Typically, we will have labs on Thursdays.
- Be sure your child has a dedicated SCIENCE binder and pencils each day for class. Our textbooks are housed in the classroom and the book pages for the current unit will be in the rings of the binder.
- Dates for summatives will be on the Schoology calendar but may change depending on the needs of the class. I will communicate with the class if dates change

MRS. HIETT- 7TH AND 8TH GRADES

Class Rules

- **Be Responsible**—follow rules in the Student Handbook/Code of Conduct; Take ownership of your actions.
- **Be Respectful**—to the teacher, other students, and property.
- **Be Prepared**—come to class on time with required materials, assignments completed, and willing to learn.

Consequences include: loss of privileges, teacher/student conference, written warning (PBIS Referral), contact a parent/

A graphic of a spiral-bound notebook with a green cover and a white page. The spiral binding is at the top. The page has a title and a list of expectations.

MS. BENNETT- 6TH GRADE SCIENCE

In this class we will...

- Write in our planners at the beginning of each new unit. Please encourage your child to reference their planner at home, as well as the Schoology calendar.
- Have vocab quizzes every Wednesday (or every other Wednesday)
- Keep it hands on with labs whenever applicable! Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our science fund. We couldn't do so without that support :)
- Be respectful to our classmates
- Come to class each day with a positive attitude

MS. BENNETT- 6TH -8TH GRADE STEM

In this class we will...

- Focus on **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, and **M**ath!
- Be working in "unit projects" where smaller assignments, planning, etc. will be entered as formatives, and final projects will be entered as a summative.
- Study the many careers that fall under the STEM category
- Use a growth mindset every day as we work through engineering challenges
- Use teamwork A LOT, which means showing respect & patience even when we don't get paired with our first choice!