

St. Pius X Catholic School
8th Grade Math Syllabus
Mrs. Whitmore (2021-22)

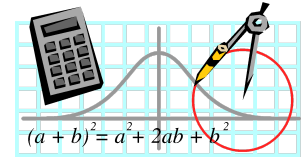
Teacher Contact Information
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Welcome to the 8th grade at St. Pius X Catholic School! I am very glad to see you and I look forward to being your teacher! It is your job to keep up and come in for extra help if you need it. The expectation is that you will work very hard in this class.

Course Content:

The course is divided into the following units of study:

- Unit 1: Transformational Geometry**
- Unit 2: Linear Equations and Applications**
- Unit 3: Relationships and Functions**
- Unit 4: Statistics and Probability**
- Unit 5: Real Numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem**
- Unit 6: Exponents, Scientific Notation, and Volume**
- *Additional Units Time Permitting**



Homework Helpline:

Sometimes everyone needs clarification or help on their homework. I offer a homework help line for students to call when they are stuck on a problem in their homework. It is only for students to use between 4:00 and 7:30 pm on weekdays. There may be times that I am on the phone with a student when you call, in that case you will hear a busy signal and need to call back. If you get my answering machine, please leave your name and number and say it twice, so I know who to call when I get home. If I get home after 7:30, I will not return calls, but students will still be responsible for attempting all homework problems. The number is 336-298-7298.

Course Policies and Procedures:

A. Class Rules

- Respect yourself, your classmates, and the teacher in your actions and words.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak.
- Be in your seat when the bell rings.
- Bring all of your materials to class every day. (Materials are listed in the syllabus.)

B. Consequences of Following Rules = Merits

These will be given for going above and beyond what is normally expected of you as a student at St. Pius X.

- Being a positive role model
- Good behavior
- Academic performance
- Any other outstanding act deemed appropriate
- Following the above rules on a consistent basis

C. Consequences of Not Following Rules = Demerits

These will be given for negative behaviors such as:

- Not respecting yourself, your classmates, and the teacher in your actions and words
- Interrupting the teacher or any student while they are speaking
- Not following directions the first time they are given
- Being late to class
- Not bringing all of your materials to class every day
- Anything else that violates the school handbook

D. Academic Honesty

It is expected that students will use genuine, sincere, fair, and honest means for the completion of all work. Students found copying or cheating in any way will receive an automatic zero and parents/guardians will be notified. The student will also receive an automatic 10 demerits and a detention.

E. Take notes daily during lesson instruction. The rule for note taking: *If I write it down, it is important!* Use these notes as your guide to complete homework assignments and study for quizzes & tests. You can take notes in pen or pencil. Your notebook should be open when class begins.

F. Do your homework - In order to learn math skills, you must PRACTICE the skills through homework. Homework is not graded for accuracy, but whether or not a student put forth genuine effort to complete the work. Homework is a time for the student to practice and ask questions and his/her work should reflect that. If no work is shown on an assignment, credit will not be awarded. Consistently putting forth effort in your work will only benefit your learning. Not completing your work to the best of your ability will impact your learning and grade. Students will be expected to correct all assignments, fixing any work and answers that are incorrect and keep the assignments to refer to later in the year.

G. Study for all assessments. Make flash cards, review your notes, and do extra practice problems in order to make sure you understand each lesson.

H. Come to class ready to work, learn and have a positive attitude about learning mathematics!

I. When you come to class, please enter the room quietly.

J. Every day before you leave, please push your chair in and clean up after yourself.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What do I do if I am late to class? When you are tardy, enter the room quietly and open your planner to the merit/demerit page.

How do I get help from the teacher if I don't understand something? If you need assistance or help from the teacher, please raise your hand and wait.

How do I participate in classroom discussions? If you wish to speak during a discussion, raise your hand and wait to be called on.

What do I do if announcements are being made over the intercom? If announcements are being made over the intercom, immediately stop what you are doing (e.g. talking) and listen.

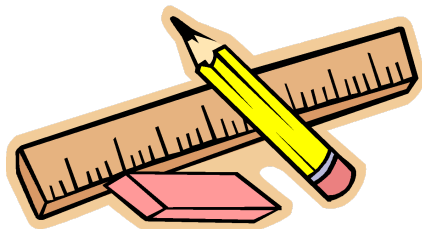
Should I say please and thank you? Any kind of request should always be prefaced with the word "please" and followed up with the words "thank you." Always. Be classy.

When can I use the restroom? How do I ask to use the restroom? You will not be permitted to use the restroom during teaching/discussion time unless it is a real emergency. You must use the sign out sheet by the door before you go. Use two fingers for, "I wish to use the restroom."

Grading Policies:

Your trimester grade will be calculated as follows:

- 30% - Waggle & Homework
- 30% - Quizzes
- 40% - Tests



Materials Needed: You will need the following materials for this class:

- Pencils
 - Pens
 - Ruler
 - Notebook (You may need more than one during the school year.)
 - Book to Read
 - Eraser
 - Portable Pencil Sharpener
 - Earbuds
- **Bring all these materials to class EVERY DAY!!!**

Attributes of a Successful Student:

- ❖ The student makes sense of problems and perseveres in solving them.
- ❖ The student reasons abstractly and quantitatively.
- ❖ The student constructs viable arguments and critiques the reasoning of others.
- ❖ The student models mathematics.
- ❖ The student uses appropriate tools strategically.
- ❖ The student is precise.
- ❖ The student looks for and makes use of structure.
- ❖ The student looks for and expresses regularity in repeated reasoning.



Below are several homework strategies parents can use to help their student improve mathematical performance:

- ❖ Help your student find a quiet, consistent place to complete homework and study. Eliminate any distractions to your student such as the television, phone, video games, etc.
- ❖ Develop a consistent daily homework routine. Help your student stay organized by encouraging the use of his or her daily planner to document daily assignments and upcoming assessments.
- ❖ Review and practice basic facts with your student. Use flash cards, math games, and online interactive websites to give your student the opportunity to reinforce important math skills.
- ❖ Teach your student to write and solve problems neatly. 25% of all errors in solving math problems can be traced back to sloppy number writing.
- ❖ Encourage your student to do more problems than those which were assigned. Having your student do extra problems will strengthen skills and build confidence.
- ❖ Stress the importance of your student learning the vocabulary of mathematics, as well as good problem-solving skills. If your student is working on a word problem, for example, suggest that the student draw a picture or diagram in order to describe and solve the problem.
- ❖ Monitor your student's progress. Touch base with your student to ensure homework has been completed, and communicate with your student's teacher if concerns or problems arise.
- ❖ Make math a part of your student's daily life. Mathematics will be more meaningful when your student understands how important math is in real-world situations.