

Welcome to Mrs. Esquivel's Social Studies Class!

<http://stjameschoolah.org/teacher/mesquivel/>

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After reading through this information, please sign and have your parent/guardian sign it as well. Then return ONLY the bottom signed portion to me and keep the rest of the agreement at home. It is your first homework assignment and is due by FRIDAY.

Rights and Responsibilities

1. Students have the RIGHT to be safe; therefore, they have the RESPONSIBILITY to act peacefully and to avoid threatening, teasing, or hurting others.
2. Students have the RIGHT to learn; therefore, they have the RESPONSIBILITY to be on time for class, listen attentively, and to work and move about the school without disturbing others.
3. Students have the RIGHT to be respected; therefore, they have the RESPONSIBILITY to respect the opinions and property of others and accept their right to privacy.

Technology

Technology is an asset and a privilege in the classroom. Students in grades 7 and 8 will have a school provided device for use during class. To ensure appropriate technology usage, all students using a device during class must join the Apple Classroom Group for their Social Studies class period. For all other technology questions, please refer to the St. James School Mobile Device Take Home Usage Agreement and Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

Website/Google Classroom

My website will be updated regularly with information about the chapter being studied, as well as class notes, downloadable resources, and homework assignments. I will also use Google Classroom as an additional resource to post class assignments and resources.

Entering and Exiting the Classroom

Please line up in a single file line against the lockers outside of my room and wait for the students from the prior class to exit. Then you may enter quietly, find your seat, and prepare for class. At the end of class, please wait for the teacher to dismiss you before starting to pack up your books and heading toward the door.

Leaving the classroom is a privilege. If you need to leave for any reason (bathroom, water, nurse, etc.) please ask first. You must sign out before leaving the classroom for safety reasons. You cannot leave during the first 5 minutes or last 5 minutes of class (instructions, wrap-up, etc.).

Participation

I expect every student to participate in class. It is important for you to add to the discussions and contribute to group work. Participation also includes being prepared and organized for class.

There will be assigned seats that will change throughout the year. When you work with a partner or in groups, you may or may not be able to choose your group. Everyone needs to learn how to work and cooperate with a wide variety of people. It's a life skill!

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Assignments and Assessments

Homework will not be assigned every night. Often students will work on assignments in class that will be graded. Late work (not handed in during class on the day that it is due) cannot receive better than 50% of the original full credit. Late work must be turned in before the end of the unit it pertains to. Please refer to the student handbook for further clarification. If there are special circumstances, please speak with me.

You are responsible for making up any missed assignments, quizzes, or projects from when you are absent. Please ask your most responsible classmates first and then me if you do not understand. Quizzes and tests are to be taken on the scheduled day. If you are absent, please speak to me to setup a time to make it up.

Make up quizzes and tests may be taken before or after school – NOT during class. I do not want you to miss additional class instruction and learning opportunities in order to make up work that is missing due to a previous absence.

Corrections

Quiz/Test corrections are often - but not always – offered. It is based on the teacher’s discretion. When completing corrections, students should write out the entire question and then write the correct answer. Corrections must be signed by a parent/guardian. Students should turn in the teacher’s copy of the quiz/test, the original graded student quiz/test, and the corrections. Corrections are due by the date written on the original graded student quiz/test. Late corrections will not be accepted.

PowerSchool

I will update PowerSchool regularly, but not daily. Please discuss any discrepancies you find with me. I am only human and do make mistakes from time to time. Grades are based upon overall points – not weighted. Thus, some assignments will be worth more points than others (ex. test, projects, etc.).

Students will be collecting a portfolio of their graded/completed work throughout the school year. From time to time, portfolios with graded work will be sent home to be viewed by parents/guardians. The portfolio must then be signed and returned by the assigned date.

Extra Credit

There are opportunities for Extra Credit every trimester. The Extra Credit options will be discussed the first week of school and are posted on the class website.

Help

If you are struggling in class, please do not delay in asking for assistance. I am available most days before or after school. Please feel free to email me with questions.

PLEASE NOTE – I will not check or respond to emails after 7:00pm on weekdays (except on rare occasions). I will not check or respond to email on weekends (except on rare occasions).

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN BY MONDAY, AUGUST 26TH

Student Name _____ Homeroom _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____