



MATH—

Pre-Algebra – Mrs. Fischer

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The math textbook the Pre-Algebra students are using this year is the *McDougal Littell Math Course 3*. We are covering a lesson a day along with one or two quizzes a chapter. After each chapter, there is a cumulative test over what is covered. We started the year with Order of Operations. This is a skill we will use throughout our Pre-Algebra class. Some of the other topics we will be covering this quarter include:

- Positive and Negative Integers
- Solving Equations and Inequalities
- Using Geometric Formulas
- Commutative and Associative Properties

We will also be focusing a lot on vocabulary, and note taking skills. I am looking forward to a great year!

Algebra I – Mrs. Fischer

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The math textbook we are using this year is *Holt McDougal Algebra 1*. Our goal is to cover a lesson a day in class, along with some work time for homework and questions. We will also have one or two quizzes per chapter, and a cumulative test at the end of each chapter.

So far, our main focus has been on solving equations. We have started by solving equations using one step, and will be advancing to using multiple steps to solve an equation. Some other topics we will be covering this quarter include:

- Absolute Values
- Rates, Ratios, and Proportions
- Percents
- Inequalities

We are also working hard on learning good note taking skills and learning our vocabulary. These are two skills we will work on year round. I am looking forward to a great year!

SCIENCE 8—

Mrs. Tauer – mrs.atauer@sesmschool.com

It has been a busy but amazing start to Earth Science 8! We began this quarter with a review on lab safety, equipment identification and scientific protocols. As we move into the Earth Science Curriculum, we will focus on the four spheres (geosphere, biosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere) and how they interact with each other. We round out the quarter developing our map skills concepts and learning how various types of maps are used in science. Overall, 1st Quarter has an ingrained emphasis on resources, impact and environmental protection. These concepts will be woven into our lessons many ways but especially in our documentary "Oceans of Plastic." As always if you have any questions regarding homework feel free to check FACTS, Google Classroom or email me.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8—

Mrs. Pelzel – mrs.pelzel@sesmschool.com

First quarter has been spent focusing on the importance of reading. Students have been given individual reading goals. At the end of each week, I meet with each student and assess their goals. Students also conference with me weekly about what they are reading, journal, and learn effective reading strategies. Soon we will move away from independent reading and transition to a whole class novel. I encourage you as parents to talk to your child about what they are reading!