# Holy Redeemer School

 August 30th , 2017.

**Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Parents,**

Welcome to the new school year and to a fantastic year in **Math Class!**

I’m sure you’ve had a well-spent and restful summer break and are as excited as I am to be back at our great school!

I look forward to working with you to help you along this educational path and achieve success this year, and beyond. I believe every child can learn, given the right support (at home and school) and a nurturing but challenging, learning environment. Different learning styles will be taken into account as we go about our daily lessons. I expect every student to be prepared from the first day, not only for work, but to **enjoy** ourselves as we all work together, with respectful, responsible and positive attitudes.

Our studies will be standards-mastery driven, with the aim of mastering math concepts and problem-solving, covering the ADW curriculum, and ensuring our children are well prepared for high school and beyond.

The Middle School Math Team is excited for the changes made to enhance the math program this school year.   Students are scheduled to receive 6 periods of math instruction each week instead of 5.  The new weekly schedule includes a double math period as well as an additional math enrichment period.

Required Materials:*(Please write student’s name on all materials)*

- Text – ***must be wrapped at all times*** – provided by the school

- 1 composition notebook (dedicated for math only)

- Your agenda book for writing assignments

- 1 homework folder, supply of filler paper and graph paper

- Pencils Pens (red, blue/black, for checking), , sharpener, eraser, highlighter, 6” ruler.

- 6th Graders – A 4-function Calculator

- 7th& 8th Graders only - A Scientific Calculator – (≈ $10-15 max).

- 1 Math Set (for geometry) – optional

- Reliable computer and Internet access -The Pearson Math texts are web-linked - found at the new www.pearsonsuccessnet.com website – login information will be sent home soon. Students will receive web-based assignments.

**Note: Students will receive study reminders if necessary materials are not brought to class after one reminder.**

**\*6th grade –** Students will develop basic math skills in number sense, computation, problem-solving, geometry, algebra, measurement, data analysis and probability, as well as critical thinking skills.

**\*7th/8th grade Algebra I part 1** – This year, students will cover the first 6 chapters of the Algebra I Text, Review of basic Algebra Skills, Solve Equations and Inequalities,

Problem-Solving, Geometry, Ratios and Proportions, Functions, and Linear Equations.

The work you can expect – Students, please understand that due to the nature of the subject, we will sometimes encounter difficulties and challenges. Do not panic, but be sure to be persistent to **review** the material **thoroughly,** pay attention in class and ask for extra help. **It is very important to complete all assignments promptly and thoroughly.**

**Classwork.** Expect individual as well as group work. **100% participation is expected at all times.** You learn Math by DOING! Not just *looking* at it!

**Homework** is to be expected every day, and will be posted in the classroom, and as far as possible, on the school website for that day. Effective homework, which includes **studying**, is essential to the success of any student.

It is a student’s responsibility to ensure they have their work written down **BEFORE** they leave the classroom. Students are urged to use their agenda books responsibly as a primary means of organization and communication, and parents are asked to check through the book for messages from teachers.

**Assessments.** Quizzes will be given at any time during a chapter, with or without notice. Tests will be given halfway through and at the end of every chapter, and about one project each quarter.

Expect a Midterm Exam at the end of the second quarter, and a Final Exam at the end of the year.

ALL graded work must be returned to me, **with corrections all done**, AND **signed by a parent**, within **1 week**. Bonus points may be earned for corrections done thoroughly.

If such work is not returned by the due date the student will receive a study reminder, and may have to complete the work while others play.

**My Grading System:**

Tests/Projects/ Exams 35%

Classwork/Quizzes 25%

Homework/Workbook 20%

Homework completion 5%

Enrichment/Problem Solving Class 10%

Participation/Conduct/Signed Papers 5%

### **Absences and Makeup work**

Students are expected to make up all work (including tests) missed due to an absence.

It is your responsibility to have a conversation with me about making up missed tests and deadlines, the day you return to school.

It must be understood that some activities, due to their nature, cannot be reset for a student if missed.

Students will generally have one extra day for each day absent, to make up work.

### **Classroom Rules**

**Students are expected to follow all school and class rules at all times.**

Extra care is needed in the Science Lab, and poor behavior choices will be strongly discouraged.

* Be prepared for class and work each day. Have all supplies. Be on time.
* Respect yourself and others, and all property.
* Follow directions **immediately.**
* Be responsible for all your actions. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
* Raise your hand to speak or move from your seat, wait to be acknowledged.
* Do not disrupt the class, for e.g. by calling out.
* Complete **all** assignments. Ask me questions. Participate actively.
* Be **silent** in the front hallway, quiet in all others.
* Believe in yourself – **Always do your best!**

## **Consequences**

* 1st - A warning is given, individually or collectively, written, spoken, signaled or implied;
* 2nd – Student’s name is written on the board/behavior noted/corrective action discussed;
* 3rd – Student is sent on time-out out of the class for a few minutes,
* 4th – Time out to “The Bench”, and a behavior report is sent home;
* 5th– 4th step and conference with parents and administration scheduled.
* **See HRS Handbook pages 20-25 for detailed School Discipline and Conduct expectations**

These options will be administered at the discretion of the teacher, and not necessarily in this or any order. It is possible to receive behavior reports without warning depending on the infraction (refer to the School Handbook for further information).

Generally, students who play when it’s time to work may find themselves working when it’s time to play! **So make wise decisions**.

**Incentives**: ***If you choose to act responsibly, then:***

* You will enjoy bonus points for all corrected and signed work turned in as required
* The lowest Quiz and/or Homework grade will be dropped
* You will learn a lot in Math, and enjoy it!
* You will experience **great pride** in doing your best
* The class may earn a time of appropriate **fun** activities
* EVERYONE will be Happy!!!

**Contact:**

The best way to contact me is by email: **shirley.martins@holy-redeemer.org**

Also, by a written note, or, by telephone: **301-474-3993**

**Success** in this class depends on hard work and determination. You can do very well if you but try. I am looking forward to working with you and expect moments of discovery, meaningful learning and great fun in our classes this year. I promise to do my part – The rest depends on you! 🖘



Thank you, and God bless you.

Best wishes,

***Mrs. Shirley Martins.***

Middle School Math Teacher.

***cc: Mrs. M. Bovich***

**>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>**

Please read the letter, sign this section (student and parent/guardian), then cut and return bottom portion to me on or before Friday, September 1st, 2017.

This will constitute your first homework grade (20pts). 2 Points will be deducted for every day it is late

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****I have read and do understand the information stated in this letter about my Math class. **I am ready!**

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade*(circle one)* 6 7 8

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: Cell phone: