

Helpful Hints for Math 6, 7 & 8
Mrs. Lunn - St. Columba

Math Binder:

Each student is required to have a three ring binder in which to place math related materials. Please label the 5 tabs of the math dividers as **Homework (HE), Warm-Ups, Chapter Notes, Quizzes/Tests, Class Projects/Handouts.**

These 5 sections will include papers and information as follows:

1. Homework (HE) - This section includes all of your nightly home education (homework). The chapter-lesson number (for example, 1-3 stands for chapter 1, day 3) should be boxed in the upper left hand side of the paper, right above the top horizontal line. Your full name and student number should be written in the upper right hand corner of your paper. If you have more than one piece of paper for homework assignment, please staple them together at home in the upper left corner. Homework is posted weekly on my website _____.
You are also given a chapter syllabus that you should refer to nightly.
2. Warm-Ups. This section includes all of your daily warm-ups. These will be on the board as you come in, and must be completed as soon as you have corrected your daily homework. You will be given about 5 minutes to complete both correcting your homework and answering your daily warm up. We will answer the warm-up together as a class. Please work independently on this.
3. Chapter Notes. This section includes the notes that will be completed during class time.
4. Quizzes/Tests. (Assessments). This section is to keep track of mid-chapter quizzes, and practice tests to study for the Chapter Test.
5. Class Projects and Handouts. This section includes any handouts that are to be used for reference of further explanation of math concepts. It could include diagrams, charts, graphs helpful hints and any information about class projects.

After a Chapter Test, you should transfer **everything** in your binder for the “just completed chapter to your accordion folder. (This information will be necessary for your midterm and final).

Chapter Syllabus

At the beginning of every chapter a *Chapter syllabus* with lesson assignments will be handed out to you. The Chapter Syllabus should be kept in a plastic sheet protector that will be distributed in math class. This Helpful Hints sheet will also be kept in a plastic sheet protector in the front of your binder. It clearly states the nightly HE assignment to be completed for the specific chapter and lesson. Each assignment notes the chapter-lesson number (for example 1-5) and the respective problems to be solved. Pay attention to everything written on these sheets as some classes have additional or different assignments than other classes. Some assignments will include activity sheets and these will be distributed during class on the day they are assigned.

Reading and Note taking

When starting a new daily lesson, be sure to preview the new lesson in the book. Previewing includes looking at the vocabulary, usually highlighted, scanning the heading, diagrams, tables, graphs, etc. in each section. Then copy the vocabulary words and notes from the whiteboard or onto your notebook page.

Diagrams, Graphs, Figures, Tables, Charts, etc.

We will make these throughout the year. They will be filed under notes.

Home Education (HE)

Your nightly assignments should be formatted on graph paper as follows: Fold the paper into two vertical sections with the left section being the larger. The left section is for “given information” in the problem and any formulas to apply. It should also show your detailed thinking (work) to solve the problem. The right section only records your answer. Show all of your thinking on the left side of your paper so that you can double-check your thinking if you need to. **Get it out of your head and put it on paper.** Do NOT overlap your writing/thinking into the answer section. As mentioned earlier, box the chapter–lesson (1-3) above the upper horizontal line on the left side of the page and write your full name and student number in the upper right corner. Label each problem number on the left side of the far left vertical line. Skip a space between every problem, and keep your work neat and orderly. DO NOT PRE-NUMBER THE PROBLEMS ON YOUR PAPER, AS YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH SPACE YOU WILL NEED TO SOLVE EACH PROBLEM.

You will self correct your Homework in class the next day. Please keep in mind that the Code of Honor is being granted to you for math HE. If you missed any problems, you should write down the correct answer in red pen in the answer column and then attempt to re-solve the problem. This might mean that you need to go back and reread the lesson in order to correct your mistake. If you can't answer the problem write a red question mark next to the answer and ask me to show you how to solve it.

Effort, Neatness, and Behavior

A student's effort, neatness and behavior are all incorporated into their math grade. Students who rush through their assignments, do not follow the instruction, aren't prepared in class with supplies, or turn in sloppy/incomplete work will have points deducted.

Are you prepared for class today?

To be prepared for math class you must bring the following items to class EVERYDAY in your pencil pouch: 2 pencils, black, blue, red pens; dry erase pen, highlighter and eraser. You should also bring you personal white board, math binder, homework math book and work book, and any other items that might have been requested the previous day in class. Please be aware you **won't** be allowed to return to your homeroom or backpack for any of these items. When you complete you nightly HE put it back in your binder immediately. Late homework will not be accepted. Also, if you know you're going to have a busy schedule, you can work ahead on you HE as the Chapter Syllabus informs you of all upcoming lessons and assignments.

LET'S HAVE A GREAT YEAR!!