

St. Columba Mrs. Lunn  
Pre-Algebra Syllabus  
2014-2015

**Course Description:** Pre-Algebra is where students begin to develop abstract thinking skills. The processes necessary for the successful transition from basic arithmetic to Algebra occur this year. Students will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills used to solve algebraic problems. This course focuses on developing an understanding of algebraic equations, simple linear equations and applying math principles to everyday life.

**Supplies:**

1. A three-ring (2 inch) binder
2. Binder dividers (5) to be labeled in this order: Homework (HE), Warm- Ups, Chapter Notes, Quizzes/Tests, Classwork/Projects
3. A spiral notebook with POCKETS (at least 100 pages- college ruled)
4. College ruled lined paper **and** graph paper
5. At least two pencils, erasers, red pens , highlighter
6. Pencil sharpener (hand held)
7. A ruler
8. TI-84 Calculator
9. 4 EXPO Markers (dry erase)
10. An EXPO eraser, or sock

**Grading Scale:** In accordance with the School Handbook

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	59 and below

**Grade Distribution:**

Tests 35% Quizzes 20% Homework 20% Projects/Classwork 20%  
Participation/Binder/Warm-ups 5%

### **Homework Policy:**

Homework (Homework Education HE) will be assigned daily in order to reinforce the skills learned in class. It must be written in pencil on lined paper and include a proper heading, each problem, work shown, and an answer with proper symbols. Please staple any Work Book Pages to lined paper with completed work attached. Although an answer might not be found, the problem must be attempted and all work must be shown. Assignments must be finished prior to class and are due at the beginning of the class. You will correct your homework in class as soon as you walk in. This is part of your warm up; there will also be a warm up provided everyday. Homework will be graded for completion by the teacher and on a scale of 0-3 points. It is the students' responsibility to correct his/her answers and ask questions during the appropriate class time. It is very important that students complete their own homework, and do not cheat off other students or allow family members to complete it for them. Students should not feel stressed out or the need to cheat to get all the right answers because homework is only graded for completion. That being said, I am asking students to attempt every problem and put his/her best effort forward. Calculators are not to be used on any homework assignments unless specified by the teacher. Late homework assignments will not be accepted, except in the case of an illness.

I will be available to students for assistance by appointment, before or after school, during lunch and on Wednesdays after school from 3:00pm- 4:00pm at Math Club. Math Club is a time for students to work on their math homework and get assistance from me, it is NOT a social hour! During this time students may also take make-up tests.

**Assessments:** Tests will be given after each chapter, so approximately 2-4 during a quarter. No talking is allowed during testing. If a student is talking during a test or quiz, he/she will receive a zero regardless of who started the conversation. A student may complete a re-do worksheet if test score is less than 75%. The re-do score will be added to the original score. For every correct answer on the re-do worksheet  $\frac{1}{2}$  a point will be given back to the student. **In order to earn the re-do score, the student must get their test signed by a parent and come discuss it with me. The re-do must be completed within a week of the original test.**

In addition to chapter tests, a midterm exam and a final exam will be given at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters. There is NO re-take exam for these.

**Quizzes** will be given every week or every other week, depending on the chapter. There will be no opportunity to re-take quizzes, unless there is an absence due to illness.

**Projects:** Occasional projects will be assigned in order to investigate the use of mathematics in real-life situations. Approximately one per quarter will be assigned and may require the student to work in addition to the daily homework or over the

weekend. Also, some mini projects may be assigned and completed during class time.

**Binder:** There will be binder checks throughout the semester to ensure that the students have kept all of their work organized under the five dividers. This will be a graded assignment worth 5% of the student's overall grade. This is also when the warm-ups and notes are graded for completion and class participation is evaluated.

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Students will be respectful to the teacher and their peers at all times.
2. When the bell rings, students will be seated and prepared with all class materials.
3. No gum, food, or drinks (except water) during class.
4. Cell phones and all other electronic devices will be kept off during class or else they will be confiscated and will not be returned until the parent picks them up.
5. Students will show academic honesty at all times.

**Consequences:**

1. Verbal warning
2. Discipline slip
3. Phone call to parent/guardian
4. Conference with parent/guardian

**Email- [tracylunnstcolumba@gmail.com](mailto:tracylunnstcolumba@gmail.com)**

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Signatures: I have read and understand the class syllabus for Mrs. Lunn's Pre-Algebra class. I also understand that Mrs. Lunn may make a change to the syllabus if necessary, and she will notify both the students and parents if this happens.

Student's name (printed):

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Email Address: Phone Number: Comments/Questions:

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