Teacher:  Ms. Takisha Toussaint

E-mail Address:         takisha\_toussaint@scps.k12.fl.us  
  
Room:    10-201

Class Website:          mstoussaint.weebly.com   
  
Phone:    (407) 746 –3876

School Website: [www.milwee.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.milwee.scps.k12.fl.us/)  
  
[Edmodo: http://scps.edmodo.com](http://scps.edmodo.com)  
  
**Textbook:**     Pearson Interactive Science-- It is a consumable textbook meaning students will not have to return it at the end of the year.  Students will be able to write in it or tear the chapters out as needed. There is also a link to the online version of the textbook in the "Resources" tab.  
  
**Daily Supplies Needed**   
Composition Notebook  
  
Notebook Paper  
  
#2 Pencils   
  
3-ring binder  
  
**Classroom Guidelines**  
Be Respectful  
Be ON TIME  
Be Prepared  
Be On Task  
No Eating, Drinking or Gum Chewing   
\*\*All rules outlined in the student handbook will be upheld in the classroom. Please refer to the Milwee School Website located in the "Resources" tab for a copy of the student handbook\*\*  
  
  
When in doubt: ***Spartans will RISE with Respect, Integrity, Safety and Excellence!***   
  
Student Expectations  
Your learning and progress of the course material will be assessed weekly, sometimes daily. Completion, quality and participation in class work, homework, labs, projects, tests/quizzes and participation will account for your grade. Your work must be neat, spelled correctly and turned in on time.   
  
·         Enter class in a quiet orderly manner.   
  
o   As soon as you enter class, place your book bags on the counter at the back of the classroom.  
  
o   Make sure you gather everything you need from your backpack before sitting in your assigned seat.  
  
·         Bellwork: Begin the Opening Activity as you sit down.   
  
·         Class Dismissal: The teacher will dismiss the class. Chairs need to be pushed in and all trash picked up, discarded in the trashcan. If there were any class supplies or instruments used, return them to their designated area before leaving the class.   
  
Bathroom/Hall Passes:  
  
·         Students will use the bathroom pass provided by the teacher. The student must ask permission or signal the teacher (“crossed fingers”) to receive permission. Keep in mind, freeze time when you are not allowed to leave the class.  
  
·         You need to sign out and sign in on the sign in/out log  
  
Late Work:  
  
·         It is YOUR responsibility to see that ALL missed work for absences is made up. Any missing assignment needs to be turned in within three days of returning to school. Late assignments will receive a 10% deduction for each day late. No more than 50% will be taken off for late work.  
  
 **Behavior Consequences:**  
  
·         Verbal warnings, seat changes, parent phone call home and detentions will be possible consequences for poor behavior.  
  
·         Spartan Bucks, verbal praise, positive emails or phone calls home will be given to students who behave well.   
  
·         Students are expected to follow an honor code at all times regarding classroom supplies, homework, class work, quizzes and tests.  
  
**Course Description:**      
  
            This year we will work together to experience the excitement of making discoveries and discussions, thinking creatively, and solving problems through project-based and cooperative learning, while utilizing various forms of technology.   
  
**Course of Study:**  
  
1st 9-weeks – Nature of Science, Classification of Organisms, Cell and Cell   
  
  Organelles, Science Fair  
  
2nd 9-weeks –Cell Processes, Heredity, and Landforms, and Hydrosphere  
  
3rd 9-weeks – Human Body, Human Sexuality,  
  
4th 9-weeks – Evolution, The Environment, Cycles in Living Systems  
  
**Grading Policy:**                                                                           
  
Homework                            10%  
  
Participation/Classwork         20%  
  
Labs/Quizzes/Tests/Projects 70%  
  
  
  
Grading Scale  
  
A  =  100-90%  
  
B  =  89-80 %  
  
C  =  79-70%  
  
D  =  69-60%  
  
F  =  59-0%  
  
**Science Routines:**  
  
To achieve our educational goals, the students will participate in the following types of activities. By varying the types of activities, different parts of the brain are engaged causing learning to take place. On any given day, the students may be participating in 3-4 of the following types of activities:   
  
Bell Work                                           Team and Class Building Activities                                   
  
Notes                                                 Academic Vocabulary  
  
Higher-Level Questioning                      Lab and Homework   
  
Formative assessments                       Summative Assessments  
  
Goal Setting                                       Individual Tracking of Progress  
  
Critical Thinking                                  Debates and Presentations

* The use of various forms of technology—both in class and outside of class—will be incorporated throughout the year. This will add more depth to class discussion, aid in team/class building activities, projects, research activities, assignments, quizzes, etc. An online parent information technology packet will be given through the 7th grade Social Studies classes.

**Project-Based Learning**- is an instructional approach built upon authentic learning activities that engage student interest and motivation. These activities are designed to answer a question or solve a problem and, generally, reflect the types of learning and work people do in the everyday world, outside the classroom.   
  
Students will be participating in the following project:

* Sustainable City Project— In this engineering embedded project, the students will research, describe and investigate a local ecosystem and its impact on native populations including food, shelter, water, space, disease, parasitism, predation, and nesting site. Students will investigate different biomes within a geographic region. From the research, students will plan and build a sustainable city.