

Dear Parents and Middle Schoolers,

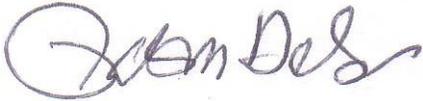
Welcome back to another exciting school year! I am humbled and blessed to be a part of your children's lives. I will do my best to share my love for math and learning, to allay any fears as they move into and continue middle school level math, and give them confidence to consider science or math- related studies.

This is my twelfth year as a math teacher and my fourth at Holy Family. My previous experience has been at the high school level teaching algebra, geometry and calculus. Prior to teaching I worked as a radar engineer for ten years. One of my goals for the year is to help students see how math is used every day. Middle school math is the gateway to upper level math courses. We move beyond basic skills, and start building on skills required for high school math such as algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus. I want to help them to see the things they've been doing all along without realizing they've been using math. Math starts to get really fun once you see how much you actually know and use on a daily basis, and find that it's not really as daunting as you may have thought.

As with anything worthwhile, success in math requires hard work and practice. Students who are willing to do their part will have a great year, and will be pleasantly surprised at how much more they can get out of our class if they do their very best.

Please contact me throughout the year for anything, whether you have concerns or things you would like to share with me. Thank you for entrusting me with your children's academic and personal growth.

God bless,



Patricia Halgas  
sixthgrade@holymfamilydalecity.org

## Classroom Management

These are rules that have been established to ensure a safe learning environment for all students. They follow the school's rules for appropriate behavior and students are expected to adhere to them.

1. **Be on time and prepared to work each day.** Students shall be seated and ready to work at the time the bell rings. Students shall have all the supplies and books you will need for the day. Preparedness is a sign of respect for the class, teacher and each other. It is not fair for students to have to share their supplies when others are unprepared.
2. **Respect the class.** Students shall work to ensure a comfortable and productive working environment for everyone else. This includes sitting in assigned seats, listening to others when they are speaking, getting permission to get up or leave the room, taking care of one's property, others' property, and school property. Student involvement and attention in the class should be total and undivided. If a student is not paying attention he/she is hurting him/herself. If a student is distracting others, he/she is hurting them. If a student is distracting the teacher, then he/she is hurting everyone. All incidents of bad behavior are acts of selfishness. Think carefully of the effect an individual's behavior has on the learning of others, and the teacher's ability to lead the class.
3. **Class disruptions.** These are to be kept to a minimum. Except for extreme circumstances, no one is to leave his/her seat during the lecture period. If you need to sharpen your pencil, use the restroom, or get a drink or water, students shall wait until the classwork session begins, and permission should be sought to do so.
4. **Follow all school rules.** All school rules must be obeyed and enforced. Escalating disciplinary action for continuing/subsequent infractions include verbal reminders, teacher-student conferences, detentions, parent communication, referral to the principal, etc.
5. **Academic Honesty.** We embrace the need to teach personal and social responsibility. Becoming a principled individual involves developing a sense of fairness, justice, and respect towards oneself and one's community, and the school plays a vital role in creating opportunities within the curriculum to address the need for academic honesty and the link between one's integrity and submitting one's own, authentic work. To that end, we expect students to complete all assessments responsibly and with integrity. Refer to the student handbook for details on honors violations.

## Coursework Management

1. **Homework.** The purpose of homework is to practice, apply, and extend the concepts taught in class. Assignments are given for each section presented in class, and shall be assigned most nights. Students are expected to complete each assignment neatly and thoroughly, and properly mark it with the chapter and section. Homework should be done in the same notebook following the class notes for that day. Students should check their answers when possible; answers to odd problems are in the book. A short review time may be provided if students have questions.
2. **Homework Quizzes.** Unannounced homework/notes quizzes will be given throughout the chapter. Students will be asked to copy a specific item from the previous day's notes or homework. From the notes the exact wording must be given for full credit. From the homework the problem must be copied as it was given in the assignment and include a full solution for full credit. It is not graded for accuracy. Homework quizzes make up a portion of the homework grade.
3. **Classwork.** Occasionally worksheets done in class will be collected and graded for accuracy. It will be announced in class when worksheets will be collected.
4. **Quizzes.** After several sections have been covered, a regular quiz will be given. These will be announced on the homework sheet therefore students are expected to be prepared.
5. **Review Days.** Prior to each chapter test, students will have the opportunity to participate in a review day. Additional review days may be scheduled throughout the chapter depending on time constraints and necessity. The review packet must be turned in on test day and makes up a portion of the homework grade.
6. **Tests.** Assessments will be given upon the completion and review of chapter material. Since these indicate mastery of the material, they of course carry the most weight towards the term grade. While the majority of the test is meant to assess recently taught material, older material may be tested as well, as mathematics is a building-block curriculum, and students should be prepared for a reasonable amount of cumulative material.
7. **Late Work.** Work may be turned in for up to two class days for partial credit. Typically work turned in one day late will result in a 10% penalty; work turned in two days late will result in a 30% penalty.
8. **Absenteeism.** Students who are absent should attempt to make up missed instruction and assignments before the next class. Follow your assignment sheets to see what was covered in class, utilize youtube videos to learn the material, and come for help if needed. There is little time to reteach material to students who miss class. Students who returns from a one-class absence on an announced test or quiz day is expected to take the test as scheduled unless prior arrangements are made. Missing a review day is not sufficient reason to postpone a test. Students who miss two or more days of class are to see their teacher to work out a plan to catch up. In the case of an emergency or the need for a long-term absence, notify your teacher to determine an appropriate makeup plan.

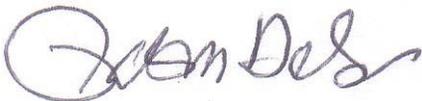
9. **School Website.** The homework sheet will be posted on the website, in addition to in the classroom. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the assignments. It includes daily homework assignments, dates of quizzes and tests, and the ixl assignments.
10. **Cumulative Trimester Tests.** The success of learning many math concepts is dependent on the ability to remember previously learned concepts. Therefore a cumulative test will be administered each marking period on material taught from the beginning of the year. A review will be scheduled prior to the test. The test will count as one chapter test. Students that have a 93 term average after the regular chapter material is completed will be exempt from the cumulative tests.
11. **IXL.** An account will be set up for each student. Modules are assigned for each chapter and are **required**. Additional modules are assigned as extra credit for bonus points towards the chapter test.
12. **Projects.** Projects will be assigned throughout the year as another way to demonstrate mastery.
13. **Final Grades.** Trimester grades are weighted. Each assignment type contributes to the term grade. The actual value of individual assignments is based on how many there are in a marking period. The final course grade is the average of the three trimester grades.

Tests	25%
Quizzes (scheduled quizzes)	25%
Homework (homework quizzes and review packet)	25%
IXL/Projects	25%

14. **Communication.** Students are expected to communicate their progress with their parents. Parents are encouraged to monitor student progress on Power School. Questions or concerns by students or parents may be addressed with the teacher via email or phone, although students are encouraged to discuss issues with the teacher directly.
15. **Back to School Night.** This year the high school BTSN is on September 4. If you wish to discuss something pertaining only to you, discuss it with your teacher in private after class, or set up a conference time to do so.

Thank you with your cooperation. Everyone's goal is to work towards a successful year for your students and I look forward to working with you throughout this exciting school year.

Sincerely,



Patricia Halgas  
 Middle School Math Teacher  
 sixthgrade@holyfamilydalecity.org

## Course 6-1 (6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Course Description

The content of the Course 1 curriculum includes integers, decimals, fractions, ratios, measurements with geometry, probability and statistics, and basic algebraic operations. Students will be using Mathematics Course 1 published by Prentice Hall, and should bring the book to class each day.

### Course Objectives

During this school year we will cover the objectives set forth by the Diocese of Arlington. An approximate breakdown of the curriculum is shown. Students will cumulative tests each term. Success in this course requires a high level of motivation and consistent effort throughout the year.

First Term	Third Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decimal Arithmetic</li><li>• Absolute Value, Integers, Order of Operations</li><li>• One and Two Step Equations</li><li>• Scientific Notation</li><li>• One Step Inequalities</li><li>• Exponents, Square Roots, Pythagorean Theorem</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ratios and Proportions</li><li>• Fractions, Decimals, Percents</li><li>• Applications of Percents</li><li>• Probability and Statistics</li><li>• Transformations</li><li>• Geometry, Area, Solid Figures</li></ul>
Second Term	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Divisibility, Prime Factorization and GFC</li><li>• Fraction Arithmetic</li><li>• Equations with Rational Numbers</li><li>• Converting Metric and Customary Units</li></ul>	

## Course 6-2 (Advanced 6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Course Description

The content of the Course 2 curriculum includes material from Course 2 with some Course 1 topics, including integers, decimals, fractions, ratios, measurements with geometry, probability and statistics, basic algebraic operations, and linear equations. Students will be using Mathematics Course 2 published by Prentice Hall, and should bring the book to class each day.

### Course Objectives

During this school year we will cover the objectives set forth by the Diocese of Arlington. An approximate breakdown of the curriculum is shown. Students will cumulative tests each term. Success in this course requires a high level of motivation and consistent effort throughout the year.

First Term	Third Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decimal Arithmetic</li><li>• Absolute Value, Integers, Order of Operations</li><li>• One and Two Step Equations</li><li>• One and Two Step Inequalities</li><li>• Exponents, Square Roots, Pythagorean Theorem</li><li>• Fraction Arithmetic</li><li>• Equations with Rational Numbers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Probability and Statistics</li><li>• Slope and Linear Equations</li><li>• Geometry, Area and Solid Figures</li><li>• Transformations</li></ul>
Second Term	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Convert Metric and Customary Units</li><li>• Ratios and Proportions</li><li>• Fractions, Decimals, Percents</li><li>• Applications of Percents</li></ul>	

## Course 7-2 (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Course Description

The content of the Course 2 curriculum includes integers, decimals, fractions, ratios, measurements with geometry, probability and statistics, basic algebraic operations, and linear equations. Students will be using Mathematics Course 2 published by Prentice Hall, and should bring the book to class each day.

### Course Objectives

During this school year we will cover the objectives set forth by the Diocese of Arlington. An approximate breakdown of the curriculum is shown. Students will cumulative tests each term. Success in this course requires a high level of motivation and consistent effort throughout the year.

<b>First Term</b>	<b>Third Term</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decimal Arithmetic</li><li>• Absolute Value, Integers, Order of Operations</li><li>• One and Two Step Equations</li><li>• One and Two Step Inequalities</li><li>• Exponents, Square Roots, Pythagorean Theorem</li><li>• Fraction Arithmetic</li><li>• Equations with Rational Numbers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Probability and Statistics</li><li>• Slope and Linear Equations</li><li>• Geometry, Area and Solid Figures</li><li>• Transformations</li></ul>
<b>Second Term</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Convert Metric and Customary Units</li><li>• Ratios and Proportions</li><li>• Fractions, Decimals, Percents</li><li>• Applications of Percents</li></ul>	

## Course 7-3 (Advanced 7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Course Description

The content of the Course 3 curriculum includes material from Course 3 and some Pre-Algebra topics, including real numbers, ratios, measurements with geometry, probability and statistics, basic algebraic operations, linear and quadratic equations, and functions and polynomials. Students will be using Mathematics Course 3 published by Prentice Hall, and should bring the book to class each day.

### Course Objectives

During this school year we will cover the objectives set forth by the Diocese of Arlington. An approximate breakdown of the curriculum is shown. Students will cumulative tests each term. Success in this course requires a high level of motivation and consistent effort throughout the year.

First Term	Third Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Real Numbers, Integers, Absolute Values</li><li>• Exponents</li><li>• One, Two and Multistep Equations and Inequalities</li><li>• Ratios and Proportions</li><li>• Fractions, Decimals, Percents and Applications</li><li>• Right Triangles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Slope and Linear Equations</li><li>• Functions</li><li>• Scientific Notation</li><li>• Monomials, Binomials, and Polynomials</li><li>• Quadratics</li><li>• Systems of Equations</li></ul>
Second Term	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geometry, Area, Solid Figures</li><li>• Transformations</li><li>• Converting Customary and Metric Units</li><li>• Probability and Statistics</li></ul>	

## Pre-Algebra (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Course Description

The content of the Pre-Algebra curriculum includes real numbers, ratios, measurements with geometry, probability and statistics, equations and inequalities, linear and quadratic equations, and functions and polynomials. Students will be using Pre-Algebra published by Prentice Hall, and should bring the book to class each day.

### Course Objectives

During this school year we will cover the objectives set forth by the Diocese of Arlington. An approximate breakdown of the curriculum is shown. Students will cumulative tests each term. Success in this course requires a high level of motivation and consistent effort throughout the year.

<b>First Term</b>	<b>Third Term</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Real Numbers, Integers, Absolute Values</li><li>• One, Two and Multistep Equations and Inequalities</li><li>• Fractions, Decimals, Percents and Applications</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Probability and Statistics</li><li>• Slope and Linear Equations</li><li>• Functions</li><li>• Scientific Notation</li><li>• Monomials, Binomials, and Polynomials</li><li>• Quadratics</li></ul>
<b>Second Term</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Right Triangles</li><li>• Transformations</li><li>• Geometry, Area, Solid Figures</li><li>• Converting Customary and Metric Units</li></ul>	

## Pre-Algebra/Algebra (Advanced 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Course Description

The content of the Pre-Algebra curriculum includes real numbers, ratios, algebra in geometry, equations and inequalities, absolute value, linear and quadratic equations, systems of equations and inequalities, and functions and polynomials. The content of the Algebra curriculum includes solving equations, factorization, monomials and polynomials, equations of lines, inequalities, systems of equations, and quadratics. Students will be using Pre-Algebra published by Prentice Hall and Mathematics Applications and Concepts published by Glencoe, and should bring the book to class each day.

### Course Objectives

During this school year we will cover the objectives set forth by the Diocese of Arlington. An approximate breakdown of the curriculum is shown. Students will have cumulative tests each term. Success in this course requires a high level of motivation and consistent effort throughout the year.

<b>First Term</b>	<b>Third Term</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Real Numbers, Integers, Absolute Values</li><li>• Fractions, Decimals, Percents and Applications</li><li>• Right Triangles</li><li>• Geometry and Area</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One, Two and Multistep Inequalities</li><li>• Absolute Value Inequalities</li><li>• Systems of Equations and Inequalities</li><li>• Scientific Notation</li><li>• Monomials, Binomials, and Polynomials</li><li>• Quadratics</li></ul>
<b>Second Term</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Solid Figures</li><li>• Convert Customary and Metric Units</li><li>• One, Two and Multistep Equations</li><li>• Absolute Value Equations</li><li>• Slope and Linear Equations</li><li>• Functions</li></ul>	