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**Common Core Math 7 Course Overview**

Welcome to a new year at Exploris Middle School! We are very excited to be your teachers this year and know that by working together we will create a successful learning experience.

**Course Description:** Common Core Math 7 (CC7) is a full year math course. Students will demonstrate mastery in the areas of ratios and proportional relationship, the numbers systems, expressions and equations, geometry, and probability and statistics. Students will engage in short lectures, taking notes, using manipulates, and completing both independent and group explorations of math topics. Throughout this course there is a focus on the following 7th grade Common Core Math Standards: **Ratios and Proportional Relationships: (1)** Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems. **The Number System: (1)** Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers. **Expressions and Equations: (1)** Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions. **(2)** Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations. **Geometry: (1)** Draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them. **(2)** Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume. **Statistics and Probability: (1)** Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population. **(2)** Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations. **(3)** Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models. Students will also work to achieve mastery in the following Math Practices: make sense of problems and persevere in solving them, reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others, model with mathematics, use appropriate tools strategically, attend to precision, look for and make use of structure, and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning. At the end of the year, students are required to take the North Carolina State End-of-Grade Exam to test grade level mathematics.

**Our pledge to you as a student:**

We will respect who you are.

We will trust you until you give us a reason not to.

We will work with you to meet our learning goals.

We will offer extra help when you need it.

**Our expectations of you as a student:**

You will be respectful and cooperative with all members of our learning team.

You will report to class promptly and with all of the tools you need to be successful.

You will enter the classroom in control of yourself both physically and mentally.

**Common Core Math 7 (CC7) Required Materials- please bring the following to class everyday:**

Your Interactive Math Notebook

Writing Utensils: PENCILS, eraser, highlighter, red pen

Calculator

Your CC7 OnCore Workbook

Your Homework Assignment Book

Positive attitude, strong work ethic, and love of learning are preferred

**Grading System:** CC7 is a weighted according to the Exploris Middle School guidelines for Mastery Mathematics. Students have the opportunity to receive both full and partial credit (depending on assignments) and are graded using the following scale: Beginning (B), Developing (D), Accomplished (A), and Exemplary (E). Students will also receive marks for Habit of Scholarship/Math Practices.

**Academic Integrity:** We take cheating/sharing/copying extremely seriously. Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this classroom. We expect you to complete your own work.

**Extra Help- HELP HALL:** We want to work with you to make this year successful for you. In order to do that, you must be responsible for completing your work and asking for help when you do not understand a concept. We are available before and after school by appointment, and will holding weekly Help Hall. Please do not hesitate to ask for help and email to schedule a time.

**Attendance/Homework/Late Work:** You are expected to attend class daily and be an active participant in our learning team. On the occasion that you are unable to attend class, we cannot repeat lessons and/or activities for you. Please schedule a time with us to make up any missed work. Please let us know in advance of your absence, when possible, as often times outlines of daily lessons and handouts can be made available.

* Remember, it is your responsibility to check for missed work and complete it within the guidelines provided by Jessica and Katie.
* When an absence occurs, all previously assigned work must be turned in the next class period following the absence. Failure to do so will result in a loss of credit.
* When an absence occurs on assessment day, you must make up the formal assessment THE DAY YOU RETURN to school for full credit.
* We will enter an “M” into our grade book when you miss a graded assignment due to absence. Once you submit the assignment we will update your grade. Failure to submit the assignment will result in our inability to assess you.

**Daily Life in Jessica and Katie’s Classroom**

**Policies and Procedures**

We want you to feel comfortable and confident in this classroom. This will help you know what we expect and what actions you should take while in class.

**Classroom Policies**

* **Be Respectful** (Every individual in this classroom deserves respect, including you. Likewise, you will respect all property within the school.)
* **Be Responsible** (You are responsible for your words, your actions, your attitudes, your daily supplies, and your work.)
* **Be Ready** (When you arrive to class you need to be in your seat with your materials ready to go, working on the *First Things First* activity.)

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| **Consequences (positive)** | **Consequences (negative)** |
| * Praise
 | * Verbal warning
 |
| * Positive emails/calls home
 | * Written warning/Email home
 |
| * Various other positive perks
 | * Parent Conference
 |
| * The joy of learning
 | * Referral to school administration
 |
| * Being a member of our learning team
 |  |

**Entering the classroom:** When you enter the classroom calmly, refer to the board for direction regarding *First Things First.* You need to be seated in your seat with your materials before the call to attention. Since we are a learning team, if someone near you needs help getting their things please assist them.

**First Things First:** Every class period will begin with a *First Things First* activity. Once you enter the classroom, promptly begin working on the posted activity.

**Arriving tardy:** If you are not in your seat with your materials when class is called to begin you are tardy. DO NOT interrupt class when you arrive tardy; get to work immediately upon arriving to class.

**Moving around the classroom:** For everyone’s safety, always walk in the classroom. Go directly to your intended location and then back to your workspace. We will be moving around the classroom space frequently, and it is important that you are mindful of distracting your learning and the learning of others.

**Homework expectations:**

* Always do your best on your homework.
* Sometimes homework will be turned in, sometimes it will not.
* Any student with perfect homework scores for an entire Trimester grading period will receive an accomplished mark.

**Turning in Absent Work and Late Work:** Turn in completed work within the appropriate time frame. If you require additional time, please schedule a time to meet with us and request and extension. Once a unit is finished, NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**During Instruction:** Please give the speaker your full attention, whether that is Jessica, Katie, another classmate, or guest. Do not talk or sharpen your pencil during direct instructional time, this can be distracting to those around you and is disrespectful to those presenting.

**When We need your attention:** When we use a call-and-response, you need to direct your attention towards us and wait silently for instruction.

**Classroom interruptions:** Stop talking immediately to listen to announcements. If it doesn’t apply to you, you may go back to working. If it does apply to you, you will need to take care of writing down the information and then get back to work.

**Speaking during class discussion/direct instruction:** You need to silently raise your hand to signal that you want to speak during class. Wait to be called upon before speaking. When working in groups, be respectful of EVERY voice in your learning team.

**Using classroom materials:** Take, use, and replace all materials in a respectful manner. Always keep walkways clear of personal and classroom materials.

**Working in learning groups:** You will be placed in learning groups with classmates throughout the year to tackle math explorations/expeditions. You are responsible for the following things while in your learning groups:

* your OWN work
* being supportive and helpful to your group members

**Working individually at your desk:** In mathematics, it is very important that you work individually. This allows you to uncover your own questions and ask for help when you need it. Based upon this, there is an expectation that you will work ONLY on what is being asked of you during math class. Please do not work on outside materials for other classes, or they will be taken away. If you need assistance, you may quietly ask the person sitting beside you for help. If they are unable to help you, ask one more member of your learning team before asking one of us.

**Asking for help during seatwork:** Remember, ask at least two classmates for help before us. Once we have helped you with a problem or a concept, you will be considered the expert and are expected to help other classmates with the same/similar questions.

**Ending class:** We will let you know when it is time to pack up your things; do not pack up based on time. We will dismiss you at the end of class after we have covered all necessary topics, the classroom is clean, and everyone is seated in their seat.

**Substitute teachers:** We treat all guests in our classroom with respect, especially teachers. Remember to gather your materials promptly, sit in your assigned seat, begin *First Things First* activity, and wait for instruction like normal.

**MASTERY MATHEMATICS GUIDELINES**

Mastery Mathematics is a system that requires students to demonstrate “mastery” of a concept in order to earn credit. Demonstrating mastery means scoring 80% or higher on each section of material. A score less than 80% is recorded below mastery.

All students are guaranteed one assessment opportunity per unit. In order to earn a re-assessment opportunity, students must complete all qualifying homework assignments proving accomplished marks.

Students can prepare for assessments and re-assessments by participating in class, completing all homework assignments, review assignments, and corrective assignments.

If a student is not prepared to re-asses on the re-assessment day, they will not be awarded extra time.

In general, students do very well and achieve at high levels under the Mastery Mathematics system.