



THE LOUIS ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL

32-02 JUNCTION BOULEVARD, E. ELMHURST, NY 11369 (718) 335-7500 /FAX 779-7186

2015/2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hello and welcome to a new school year! We will be teaching your child's 8th grade math class this year. Please take some time to sit down with your child and read through the information in this letter and the attached forms.

To support your child's academic participation, please purchase the items on the enclosed Math Supply List as soon as possible. Your child's preparedness with these items will count as a homework grade for Friday, September 18, 2015. It is imperative that your child have these supplies in class everyday thereafter in order to receive full credit for class preparedness.

As with any other discipline, one of the best ways to become a successful math student is through practice. We want you to be aware that we will be assigning homework *every night*. As stated in the attached Homework Policy, in the event of absence, your child is responsible for submitting missed homework within two school days of when he/she returns. We encourage you to visit <http://ignall227math.blogspot.com/> for the nightly homework assignments and other announcements/information. Due to the frequency of homework, no late homework will be accepted.

Another equally important way of becoming a successful math student is through active listening and participation in class. Please take the time to review with your child the attached Classroom Rules and Consequences.

We look forward to working with you in making this school year a great learning experience for your child. If you have any questions or concerns throughout this school year, please contact us by email at mrlamonaca@gmail.com and JIgnall2@schools.nyc.gov or at school via phone. If your child is having difficulties, we suggest that he/she makes an appointment for help during our extra-help lunch periods.

To ensure that you have received this and the attached forms, please sign below and return with your child no later than Wednesday September 16, 2014.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lamonaca
8th Grade Math Teacher

Mr. Ignall
8th Grade ICT Math Teacher

Please acknowledge your receipt and review of the following documents by signing below:
Letter to Parent/Guardian, Math Supply List, Grading, Homework Policy, Rules and Consequences

Students Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Students Signature/Date

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date



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MATH SUPPLY LIST 2015

- 5 Subject Spiral Notebook (to be used for Math only)
- 2 Pads of Post-Its
- Pack of Graph Paper
- A Box of Pencils (to be collected by Math teacher)
- Pack of Dry Erase Markers (for personal whiteboard activities)

All required supplies must be in class by **Friday, September 18, 2015**. If there is a failure to bring in any of the supplies by **September 18, 2015**, there will be a lowering of the homework grade for that day and a subsequent lowering of the class preparedness grade. If there is a problem with purchasing any supplies, a note from a parent/guardian is required.

RULES AND CONSEQUENCES 2015

Classroom Rules:

- 1) **RESPECT:** Students must respect themselves, others, and their environment.
- 2) **PREPARED:** Students must be on time and prepared to learn.
- 3) **HANDS RAISED:** Students must raise their hands and wait to be acknowledged before speaking.
- 4) **CLEAN ROOM:** Students and teachers will strive to maintain a clean room and students will refrain from eating and drinking in class unless instructed otherwise.
- 5) **STAY SEATED:** Students should remain in their seats at all times unless instructed otherwise.

Consequences:

- 1) Verbal warning
- 2) Lunch Detention
- 3) Phone Call Home
- 4) Parent-Teacher Conference



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GRADING 2015

Grading Policy

Here is the breakdown of how your child's grade will be determined each marking period. Louis Armstrong Middle School adheres to a cumulative grading policy which means that your child's final grade will be an average of all four marking periods.

TESTS	30%
QUIZES	20%
PROJECTS	20%
CLASS WORK	15%
HOMEWORK	15%

Class Work Rubric

Class work and participation will make up 15% of your child's grade and will be based on the following rubric:

GRADE	REQUIREMENTS
95-100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participates frequently and thoughtfully.• Is on time and prepared for class with books and materials.• Stays on task and works cooperatively and effectively in a group (based on <i>Independent Learner Rubric</i>).• Notebook includes all notes and homework assignments and is legible.• Maintains Portfolio with appropriate classwork.
85%	Deficient in any <i>one</i> bullet above.
75%	Deficient in any <i>two</i> bullets above.
65%	Deficient in any <i>three</i> bullets above.
55%	Deficient in any <i>four</i> bullets above.



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HOMEWORK POLICY 2015

Homework counts as 15% of your child's overall grade. Homework will be assigned DAILY. In order to receive full credit, students must (1) copy the question, (2) show the work, and (3) box the answer. NO LATE HOMEWORKS will be accepted unless a student is absent, in which case, he/she is responsible for getting the assignment and submitting missed homework within two school days of when he/she returns. We will make every effort to post the homework to **www.ignall227math.blogspot.com** every day; however, your child should also contact one of their classmates to be sure they know the assignment.

Homework Rubric

GRADE	REQUIREMENTS
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework header includes homework number and date. • Complete question(s) are copied with work shown and answers boxed. • Work is neat and legible. • All questions are attempted (and answers reflect the work that is shown). • Pre-printed homework sheets must be stapled or glued into notebook.
3	Deficient in any <i>one</i> bullet above.
2	Deficient in any <i>two</i> bullets above.
1	Deficient in any <i>three</i> bullets above.
0	No homework is attempted or homework is not turned in.

****PLEASE NOTE:**

- 1) NO WORK, NO CREDIT: work must be shown in order to receive full credit.
- 2) ABSENTEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR HOMEWORK:

The names and numbers of 3 of my classmates that I can get homework assignments from when I am absent are:

1. NAME: _____ # _____

2. NAME: _____ # _____

3. NAME: _____ # _____