

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

“The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called “truth”.

Welcome to the new school year! I know that this year is an especially exciting one for the 8th graders. I am looking forward to a great year with the 8th grade and all the promise it holds.

Book: Science Explorer 2009, Prentice Hall

www.pearsonsuccessnet.com offers you the opportunity to look inside your child’s day-to-day learning. You will be amazed in the interactive learning experiences. Your child has his/her username and password.

Course Outline

- Unit 1: Living Things and Cells
- Unit 2: Animal Kingdom
- Unit 3: Human Biology and Health
- Unit 4: Ecology

Classroom Routines:

1. Tests every 5 to 10 days.
2. Tests are cumulative. There is a semester final and end of year final.
3. Learning Outcomes online.
4. Note taking, labs, dissections, and journaling.

The following is a list of the most common clue words and their meaning in exam questions to help you prepare for essay exams.

Clue Word Meaning

Analyze	To find the main ideas, how they are related and why they are important.
Compare	To show both the differences and the similarities.
Contrast	To compare by showing the differences.
Criticize	To give your judgment or reasoned opinion of something g, showing its good and bad points. However, it is not necessary to attach.
Define	To give the formal meaning by distinguishing it from related terms. This is often a matter of giving a memorized definition.
Describe	To write a detailed account or verbal picture in a logical sequence or story form.
Diagram	To make a graph, chart or drawing. Be sure to label it and add a brief explanation if necessary.
List	To produce a list of words, sentences or comments. Same as enumerate.
State	To describe the main points in precise terms. Use brief, clear sentences. Omit details or examples.