 **7th Grade Civics-** **Hammerheads** 

**2018-2019**

St. Lucie West K-8 School

1501 SW Cashmere Boulevard

Port St. Lucie, FL 34986
Tel: (772) 785-6630

Course Instructor: Mrs. Ashworth
Room: 07-105
Email: Stephanie.Ashworth@stlucieschools.org

Class site: <http://www.sharkcivics.weebly.com>

**Course Content** :

* This seventh grade social studies course will focus on the following areas of study: citizenship, federal, state, and local government, and elections/voting. The main content for this course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of our government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system.

**Course Requirements:**

* Tardiness is unacceptable; students are to be in their seats at the beginning of the period.
* In the case of student absence, it is the **student’s responsibility** to make up any missed work within the allotted time period, outlined in the Student Handbook.
* Appropriate, responsible behavior is expected at all times. Parents will be notified if a problem should arise.

**Materials/ Supplies:**

* 2 Composition book
* 3 Highlighters
* 3 glue sticks or liquid glue
* Pencils/Pens (red pen)
* Crayons/colored pencils
* *Classroom Wish List: Tissue, paper towels, Lysol wipes, Ziploc bags*

**Assignments:**

* Homework and classwork will be assigned throughout a unit of study.
* Homework will be assigned to reinforce the concepts that are discussed in class, to finish assignments given in class, and/or to study for tests. All work must be turned in **on time**.

**Formative & Summative Assessments**

* Formative assessments will be given throughout the unit of study and are typically open-notes.
* Summative assessments will be given at the end of the unit of study.

**Grading Policy:**

* Grades will be based on the following grading scale:
* Classwork 50%
* Formative Assessments 20%
* Summative Assessments 20%
* Journal 10%

**Academic Honesty Policy:**

Violations of academic honesty policy includes willful or deliberate unauthorized use of the work of another person for academic purposes, or inappropriate use of notes, or other material in the completion of an academic assignment or test. In addition to disciplinary responses, the granting of credit for this assignment may be considered null and void.

**Classroom Policies:**

Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.

1. Treat the room, those in the room, and its contents with respect.
2. No gum, candy, food, or drink.
3. Cell phones and all other electronic devices are turned off and are **NOT** visible.
4. School dress code will be enforced.
5. Complete your own assignments and turn in to the designated bin.
6. Arrive on time with proper supplies, ready to **LEARN** and have **FUN**.

**Parent Letter:**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at St. Lucie West K-8! I would like to welcome you and your student to 7th grade civics. I am excited to be teaching such a wonderful subject and I look forward to sharing my passion for this course with your child! We will explore many fascinating topics throughout the school year!

While it is important for me as an educator to teach the content, I also strive to impart several other critical qualities and skills in my students. First and foremost, I want to instill the importance of hard work and perseverance in all of my students. I also work to teach organization and responsibility. As such, my **students are responsible** for their learning. That includes paying attention in class, filling out their planner, staying in contact with their teacher, checking the class website when needed, and knowing all important dates.

I want to maintain open communication with the parents/guardians of my students because I believe that education is a joint venture between the home and school. I am available via email, phone, and Remind and encourage parents/guardians to be involved and communicate with their child and me. I know that if we work together as a team, this year will be the best ever!

I also have a class website. The site will be updated weekly to include all assignments, due dates, and pertinent information. I encourage you and your child to explore: <http://www.sharkcivics.weebly.com>. Every student should be on the website, at minimum, once a week. I encourage students and parents to check the site nightly.

As another means of communication I have set up a reminder system for students and parents to remind you of homework, tests, and quizzes. This program is called **Remind.** It is a text message system where I can send reminders to students and parents via text message (standard messaging rates apply). It is anonymous, meaning that I cannot see the phone number being used and you cannot see my personal phone number being used. Remind has implemented two-way messaging, which means that you can message me back. I encourage students and parents to utilize this tool. If you would like more information, please visit: <https://www.remind.com/learn-more>.

If you would like to use Remind, simply text code: @slwk8civto the number 81010 and you will receive all future messages. You do not have to download the app to receive the messages. However, you can download the app if you would like to have it on your phone.

I look forward to working with you and your child this school year. Please email me at Stephanie.Ashworth@stlucieschools.org with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Ashworth

Please sign that you have received this *letter* **AND** *class syllabus* **AND** *understand its contents*. Return this portion to Mrs. Ashworth as soon as possible.

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Student Name (print) Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Name (print) Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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| --- | --- |
| E-Mail Address:  |  |
| Phone Number:  | Day: Evening:  |
| Does your child have access to a computer *daily*? (Circle) | Yes or No. If no, how often? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Does your child have access to the Internet *daily?* (Circle) | Yes or No. If no, how often? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Any other comments, questions, or concerns for this school year.  |  |