

Westchester Lutheran School
Instructor: Ms. Emily A. Vellanoweth, M.A., M.S.
Email: evellanoweth@wlcs.org

7th Grade Math Syllabus

A CA Standards-Based Approach to Instruction: “By the end of grade seven, students are adept at manipulating numbers and equations and understand the general principles at work. Students understand and use factoring of numerators and denominators and properties of exponents. They know the Pythagorean Theorem and solve problems in which they compute the length of an unknown side. Students know how to compute the surface area and volume of basic three-dimensional objects and understand how area and volume change with a change in scale. Students make conversions between different units of measurement. They know and use different representations of fractional numbers (fractions, decimals, and percents) and are proficient at changing from one to another. They increase their facility with ratio and proportion, compute percents of increase and decrease, and compute simple and compound interest. They graph linear functions and understand the idea of slope and its relation to ratio” (Retrieved from the CA State Board of Education Math Content Standards at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/mathstandard.pdf>).

Textbook: Prentice-Hall Mathematics--*California Pre-Algebra* (2009)

Contents:

Chapter 1—Algebraic Expressions and Integers
Chapter 2—Solving One-Step Equations and Inequalities
Chapter 3—Decimals and Equations
Chapter 4—Factors, Fractions, and Exponents
Chapter 5—Operations with Fractions
Chapter 6—Ratios, Proportions, and Percents
Chapter 7—Solving Equations and Inequalities
Chapter 8—Linear Functions and Graphing
Chapter 9—Spatial Thinking
Chapter 10—Area and Volume
Chapter 11—Irrational Numbers and Nonlinear Functions
Chapter 12—Data Analysis

There are chapter web codes on page CA29 in the textbook. These web codes can be used online to access student lesson tutorials, the textbook, homework video tutorials, lesson quizzes, practice worksheets, chapter tests, and vocabulary quizzes. Go to PHSchool.com, enter the web code, and click “Go!”.

For parent and student reference, the CA state standards for math are listed on pages CA30-CA39 in the textbook.

Homework Policy: Homework will be assigned each day. Students need to complete all homework problems assigned to them neatly on lined paper, writing the problem, showing the work, and boxing the answer. Sometimes homework will be in the form of a practice worksheet or a project. If an assignment is incomplete or not turned in on the day it is due, no point will be given towards the assignment. Students will receive 1 point for each day of homework that is complete and has corrections on it. Each week has a possibility of 5 total points. Students will receive one weekly homework score. This policy serves the purpose of encouraging students to practice concepts they learned without the unnecessary pressure or anxiety that often is associated with being graded on the number correct. Students learn from their mistakes when we correct it together in class. This is a form of self-assessment that promotes learning.

Weekly Homework Scores:

5/5 =100%

4/5=80%

3/5=60%

2/5=40%

1/5=20%

0/5=0%

Grade Distribution:

Homework: 25%

Chapter Tests: 40%

Midterm/Final: 15%

Quizzes: 20%

Reward Coupons: Each class will have a Homework Rewards Chart to monitor homework completion. Homework is considered completed when it has the problem clearly written, the work is clearly shown to solve the problem, the answer is boxed, and the homework assignment is corrected in class by the student. Each week that a student completes all of the homework assignments, the student will earn a sticker for the week on the Homework Rewards Chart. After a student earns 5 stickers, he or she will earn one homework pass coupon to be used during any quarter. Only one homework pass coupon can be earned during any given quarter. At the end of the quarter, if a student has a sticker for each week on the quarter, then he or she will receive a 5% Extra Credit Quiz Coupon to be used towards any one quiz score. The reward sticker cycle starts over at the beginning of each quarter. At the end of the 1st Semester, students who completed all homework assignments for the first and second quarter will be invited to a pizza party in the math classroom. At the end of the 2nd Semester, students who completed all homework assignments for the third and fourth quarter will be invited to a pizza party in the math classroom.

Each week, the math website will have a daily list of quizzes, tests, and lessons. Please check the website at <http://www.wlcs.org/MSmath/hmwrksheetalgebra.htm>. Sometimes it is necessary to change the assignments and test/quiz dates. Check your child's planner for an accurate listing of assignments and test/quiz dates.

Please contact me via email should you have any questions or concerns.