

# FCS Eagles Science Class Parent Orientation Letter

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Dear Parent,

I'm honored to be your child's biology teacher this year. I share your desire to help your child grow both spiritually and academically.

Because parental involvement is a vital part of FCS's philosophy and your child's training, I'm sending you an overview of our science class goals. This will help you support your child's learning. Please feel free to call or reach out if you have ideas for improving our class.

## Classroom activities

Our science class emphasizes thinking skills. To foster this, we incorporate:

- Lectures, note reviews, and homework
- Class discussions on:
  - Current events in science
  - Lessons from the manuscript and annotated notes.
  - Individual science projects

## Grades

Grades are based on:

- Homework
- Tests
- Science project

Homework is assigned for each chapter and graded in class as part of our discussion. Test questions are drawn from both homework and class discussions.

## Science projects

Science projects are graded based on completion of weekly assignments. Half of the total points come from ten-point tasks due every Monday.

Students who fall behind on the project schedule miss valuable in-class support. Since 10–20% of class time is dedicated to project design and critique, non-participation results in lost learning opportunities and may lead to failing a quarter.

Weekly assignments are small and simple—but essential for learning science and earning a good grade.

Our school competes in regional and state-level science and engineering fairs. A few years ago, we swept the junior high regional division with first-place winners. This year, I hope to build on that success, thanks to the enthusiasm and experience of our students and science club.

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## Helping your student

Here are some ways you can support your child and our science class:

1. Pray for us.
2. Ensure your student completes chapter homework and science project assignments.
3. Ask to see paperwork from biology class.
4. Review your child's grades on Renweb (<https://renweb1.renweb.com>).
5. Review the class progress and announcements in Google classroom.
6. Volunteer to design, coordinate (perhaps with other parents), and teach labs. I can offer up to one class per week for this.
7. Assist students with science projects, answering questions, brainstorming ideas, and helping with scheduling.
8. Serve as a field trip monitor. Some parents have arranged tours of their workplaces.
9. Explore our class website at <http://scienceatfcs.brineyweb.com> and follow us on Facebook.

If you have other ideas or would like to get involved in a different way, I'd love to hear from you.

Please **sign** on the line below so I know that your child showed you this paper. Make a **copy** of this handout for yourself.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

*Pat*

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Please print student name

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Parent Signature

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Activity to offer volunteer help