

# Math – Science – History

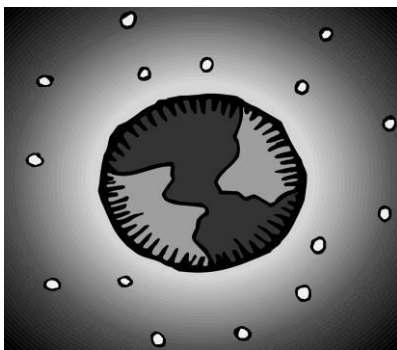


Unraveling the mystery, that all started with a BIG BANG!

## Bang!

Mr. Cottrell – Ms. Lanza – Ms. McGinnis

Room 317 – Science



**The Search For  
Answers About  
*Everything!***



[www.sir-ray.com](http://www.sir-ray.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/sir.rays.space>

[rcottrell@sir-ray.com](mailto:rcottrell@sir-ray.com)

Myra S. Barnes – Intermediate School 24  
Mr. Lenny Santamaria – Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian:

My name is Raymond T. Cottrell (along with Ms. Lanza and Ms. McGinnis depending on class) will be your child's Science Teacher(s) this year. We (I) have an exciting experience for our (my) students and we (I) am sure that you and your child will enjoy the year.

All lecture notes; articles; films; parent notes; homework; etc. can be found on my website [www.sir-ray.com](http://www.sir-ray.com). I make extensive use of the computer and the internet in the delivery of my class instruction. Whatever work is online, is provided to students in the classroom. Students accessing the internet for lecture notes; etc.; are expected to have copies of these notes within their science folder/notebook for class. Please note that not all material needs to be printed – the students will be instructed as to what is required for their folder/notebooks.

I have setup a parent/guardian emailing list that I use to send out information directly to parents/guardians. This is a “blind” mailing list – this means that no one can see your individual email address. If you would like to join this list, please be sure to indicate your email address on the attached tear-off sheet. Depending on how your email is set-up, you may need to add my email address to your “accepted email listing.” My email address is: **rcottrell@sir-ray.com**. This is the only address from which you will receive mailings. Your email address will not be shared with anyone – including otherteachers.

Below is a list of supplies for science class. I respectfully ask that the students have these supplies available to them by **Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

1) package of mechanical pencils or package of regular pencils with a sharpener (pens may <b><i>not</i></b> be used in Science class; unprepared grade for lack of pencil)	2) standard size notebook – marble type; spiral; section in large binder (student choice)
3) one (1) folder – solid color, with name of student clearly labeled or printed on front (remains in class for promotional portfolio)	4) package of graph paper (smaller boxes are preferred)
5) metric ruler and protractor (kept by student - please bring daily)	6) calculator ( <b><i>very basic</i></b> model – kept by student – please bring daily)
7) roll of paper towels (thank you for your help!)	8) bottle of hand sanitizer (thank you for your help!)

## What I expect of my students

### 1) Homework

- a) Homework is assigned on the **first day** of the school week. Usually, this will be Monday; however, as per calendar changes due to holidays, it may be assigned on a Tuesday. Enough homework is assigned to last the entire week. This homework is usually due the following Monday of the week the homework is given. In short – homework given on Monday, collected on the following Monday. **If your child states that there is no homework for a particular week – he/she is mistaken.**
- b) All homework assignments may be confirmed by going to the website. Several weeks' worth of homework is posted on the site so that absent students will have the ability to remain on task. Homework lists are also provided to the students in class.
- c) Homework is to follow a standard format. This format permits easy review and easy marking. The homework numbers are to be written across the top of the page in the large white space. White-stock standard-sized paper is required. While some students choose to type their homework, it is not required. Any deviation from this format will result in receiving **one (1) credit per homework**. Students will not be permitted to “make-up” homework that was handed in without being in the proper format. The format has been extensively reviewed with the students during their first class visit and may be found on the website. Please remember to show pride and respect in your written homework. Homework that is messy and unkempt will be returned with a **one (1) credit grade. per homework**.
- d) Each separate homework value is worth **five (5) credits**. Credits are deducted from this amount for the following reasons:
  - Not following format – one (1) credit received
  - Late homework – one (1) credit received
  - Sloppy homework – one (1) credit received
- e) In the event of absence on the day when homework is due, it is expected that the student will have the homework upon his/her return to school. If the student is absent when the homework is given, **the student is responsible for obtaining the homework from another student; the classroom listing of homework; or the website**. As homework is provided well in advance, there are **no extensions** on due dates. **Late homework automatically gets a value of one (1) credit regardless of when it is handed in**. Please be sure to consult the website for a complete listing of all assignments along with their due dates.

- f) Students may email their homework. Emailed homework is due by **10:00 PM the night before the homework is due to be handed in** during class. This helps eliminate any possible computer problems that may arise at the last minute. Obviously, I cannot print out homework for students that choose to email homework. Students emailing homework should keep a copy of their homework in their notebook or folder. An email receipt will be sent to all students emailing homework. Emailed homework that does not list the name of the student in the heading, will be returned via email with **one (1) credit** as it is impossible for me to determine who sent homework without a name.
- g) **Please be sure to check agendas!!** I will be instructing the students to write their homework assignments in them.

## 2) Exams

- a) Exams are given approximately every two (2) weeks. All dates for exams may be obtained by going to the website. A one-week reminder notice is given before the exam. Exams are based on **homework as well as class notes and reading assignments**. If a student is absent for an exam, it will be given on the day following the students return. **Other than absence, there are no make-ups, "do-overs", and no dropped test grades.**
- b) Science Midterm and Final procedures will be provided at the appropriate time.

## 3) Special Assignments

- a) During the course of the school year, there will be special assignments including reports, projects, experiments, etc. A separate sheet will be distributed to all students with specific information in regards to the requirements. **As these special assignments usually require extra work, they will naturally contribute a greater portion to the overall grade for the quarter in which they are given.**

## 4) Classwork

- a) It is expected that each student be prepared to work each day he/she is in class. **This includes half-days, testing days, and stormy days the school is open – if school is open, we work.** It is the student's choice as to how he/she keeps class notes and other materials. There are no special notebook requirements other than a separate section is provided for science, or a folder is utilized. However, it is important to insure that all classroom materials remain secure, as there will be notebook/folder checks periodically.

## 5) Online Grades

- a) You will be able to check your son's/daughters progress using an online grading system. Information will be sent home once I have setup all the classes.

## What you and your child can expect of me

- 1) **A safe learning environment.** I will not permit any circumstance that will interfere with a student learning in my classroom. This includes inappropriate behavior on the part of any student for whatever reason.
- 2) **Respect, fairness and trust.** I will respect all opinions and observations of my students. I will be fair in my judgment and will trust all students implicitly. I expect in time that my students will develop these attitudes toward me as well.
- 3) **A helping hand.** I will be there for all my students whenever they need me. I will do my best in preparing them for science and be sure they are well prepared for their other subjects as well.
- 4) **A fun time.** I expect that my students will enjoy my class. I have many exciting things planned from experiments to trips, from special visitors to special projects.

You may find out information, or contact me using the following methods:

**On the web:** [www.sir-ray.com](http://www.sir-ray.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/sir.rays.space>

**Social Media:** Twitter, Instagram and Periscope all @sirray

**Remind:** Sign up information will be emailed.

**School Number:** 718.982.4700

**Email:** [rcottrell@sir-ray.com](mailto:rcottrell@sir-ray.com) (highly preferred and the fastest method)

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Parent/Guardian/Student Booklet Acknowledgement

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Please sign this acknowledgement letter that indicates you have read the information booklet. In addition, if you would like to include a telephone or fax number, email address, etc., for additional communication, please indicate.

If you would like to join the parent-emailing list, which is a bi-weekly notification of what we are doing in class, along with other important information in regards to school work; school activities; important information in regards to grade promotional procedures; high school open houses; etc.; please be sure to give your email address. The email address information you give will not be shared with anyone – including other teachers – and all emails are sent confidentially so that no one can see your email address. Please be sure to add my email address rcottrell@sir-ray.com to any spam email software that you may have to insure that you receive emails.

As this is HW #1, this must be returned no later than **Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Please return the entire sheet.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ of Class \_\_\_\_\_  
and I have read the informational booklet. We are aware of the following:

- 1) homework is **given each week, without exception**, on Monday and is collected the following Monday unless holidays require a change; **there will never be an instance of no homework – if the student says there is no homework – the student is mistaken.**
- 2) it is the **responsibility of the student** to keep up with assignments and to be sure they are being handed in on time.
- 3) all class notes, assignments and other classroom materials are available on the internet at **www.sir-ray.com, as well as in the classroom.** If the student requires the notes from the classroom, it is the **responsibility of the student** to acquire them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

(**Note:** This email address is for **adults only** - please print and distinguish between the number “0” and the letter “O” by using Ø for the number zero – thank you!)