

"Goldie's Room"

A monthly guide to what is happening in your child's biology class!

December 2011

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THE MIDTERM!

Towards the end of January, right before the proposed 'Regents Week', there will be a 2-day midterm exam in Biology taken during class. Make sure your child is doing everything on their end to prepare themselves for this exam. This includes staying after school for extra help as much as possible if needed!

WINTER BREAK WORK

I know the last thing on students' minds while on winter vacation is to do work. However, it is important that when we return in 2012, we do not miss a beat.

To help with this, I have assigned a TAKE HOME QUIZ over the break. Once that is done, your child should be reviewing the material that has been covered in class daily. And if they finish in 5 minutes, then they didn't do a thing!

Find out about what we have accomplished so far in class. I know a lot of parents haven't seen biology in quite some time... but give it a try! Have your child *explain* the material to you, not just re-read their notes. If they can do that, then they should have a good understanding of what we are doing.

Ask biology students how I "tortured" them when I showed them how lactic acid builds up or how their cheek cells looked under 400X magnification or how different organic chemicals react with various indicators.

Some of these lessons and experiments your child will remember. Hopefully, they are enjoying science so far!

LABS

I have stressed the importance of properly completing and handing in labs. Unfortunately, I have not received every lab from every student. The only reason that I should not have a lab from a student is if they were absent the day we did the activity in class. And if that is the case, then that student is responsible for staying after school to make it up as soon as possible.

WARNING...If a student is missing any labs at the end of the second quarter (end of January), that student will automatically receive an 'F' on their report card. They can also receive an 'F' if they are missing any labs from the first quarter, which ended November 4th. The students have had numerous opportunities to make up labs since school started. To make the labs up, the student must stay after school on the assigned lab make up day and focus on their work. To stay after and do no work accomplishes nothing!

There will be quite a few days of lab make-up after school over the next two months. If your child is missing any labs, make sure they show up ready to work!

Look below to see if your child is missing any labs!

As of Dec. 1st, _____

is missing ____ LAB REPORTS

J. Goldberg 2011