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| |  | | --- | | Dear Parents/Guardians,   It’s time to start work on the 7th Grade Science Fair! Enclosed is a schedule outlining due dates and important information regarding your child’s project. Ample time has been scheduled and work has been spread out, so students can complete the work at a comfortable pace.  This is a **major** project and will represent a **significant portion** of your child’s grade for the third trimester grading period. The primary objective of this project is to have students approach a problem scientifically. This includes:   1. Asking questions and forming hypotheses 2. Creating experiments to test those hypotheses 3. Organizing data and drawing conclusions 4. Writing about scientific research 5. Producing a project report   The project must be **experimental** in nature as opposed to research oriented. In other words, students must do a test, survey, or experiment to determine the answer to their question instead of just looking it up in a book. I encourage students to pick topics that they are genuinely interested in, since they will be working on these projects for the next few months. Topics must also be “**original**” - something students do not already know.  Students will be working on their own or with a partner. If students choose to work with a partner, parent permission is required. Each student will be responsible for contributing equally to the project and keep up with the research. Students will be responsible for the following three tasks.   * **Journal/Lab Notebook:** Every step of the way, students will be in charge of recording the progress of the project, data for the experiment, and any other information related to the science fair project in a journal/lab notebook. * **Research Report:** The Scientific Research Paper chronicles how the project evolved, how the research was done, the results, and conclusion. This paper must be typed. * **Display:** Students will be responsible for organizing the display. The tri-fold display board must be the following dimensions: 48 in. x 36 in (provided by teacher). This includes visuals of the experimental process, gathering materials, and setting up the display board according to the requirements.   Project guidelines state that all work must be done by the students; however, assistance may be provided by teachers, parents, etc. It is very difficult to work alone without the exchange of ideas, so I encourage you to brainstorm with your child on different ideas and possible topics your child may want to pursue.  Important due dates:   * March 14 assigned science fair project * March 22 chosen topic (problem/hypothesis) * March 29 check experimental design/start testing * April 12 & 19 log book check * April 26 display board work day (in-class) * May 4 - May 6 students will present to the class to practice for the big night * May students will present to parents, peers, and teachers at Crestwood from 6:30-8 pm.   I am looking forward to working with you to make this a valuable learning experience for your child. I appreciate your support on this important project. As acknowledgement and part of your child’s homework, please sign, date, and return the bottom portion of this letter by **March 18**.  Sincerely,   Bobbie Fletcher  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  I have reviewed the science fair information and important due dates with my child, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and we understand the requirements for a successful Science Fair Project.   I give permission for my child to work with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the science fair. | | partner’s name | | I want my child to work individually on the science fair | | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name (please print)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Student Signature/Date) |   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (Parent Signature/Date) |  |
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