**Welcome to Mr. Warren’s Health & Genetics class! (Room B216) 2016-2017 Syllabus**

During the fall semester, you will learn how to lead a healthy life and make safe and responsible decisions. We will cover the following topics: general wellness, nutrition, diet and exercise, mental health & disorders, drugs, reproduction, and sexually transmitted diseases. This semester-long “Health” class is a graduation requirement.

During the spring semester, you will build upon what you learn in biology to take a closer look at genetics and the scientific method. Not only will we go deeper into what DNA does in your body and how traits are passed down from parent to child, but we will also look at how scientists use DNA to genetically modify food and animals, develop cures or treatments for human disorders, and how the environment and genetics both contribute to our development. This semester-long “Genetics” class gives [g-elective] credit.

More importantly, however, you will spend the whole year practicing how to think like a scientist. You must think critically and learn to ask good questions, design experiments, use and value evidence to support everyone’s claims, and present information to others. These skills are very important not just for scientists but for everyone in order to make healthy decisions, especially when many people give you conflicting information about what is best for you!

**Contact Information**

* Students and parents may contact me for any reason (text/e-mail preferred).
* Phone (call or text): (443) 228-6692 (Please contact me for any reason!)
* E-mail: [Mister.Warren.is@gmail.com](mailto:Mister.Warren.is@gmail.com)

**Online Resources**

* The class website (<http://misterwarren.weebly.com>) contains…
  + Google Calendar with assignments and important dates
  + Learning objectives, agendas, and homework instructions
  + All hand-outs in case you need to print a new copy of anything
  + Links to helpful resources for students and parents
* Facebook: Search for me using my e-mail address (above).
* Grades will be available online (<http://jupitergrades.com/login>)

**Expectations for ALL students**

* You are in your seat, starting the warm-up when the bell rings.
* Cell phones, head phones / ear buds, and other distractions etc. must be put away before the class starts.
  + If you have an emergency and need to use your phone, you must get permission beforehand.
  + In specific cases, I may give permission to use the internet on smart phones for research only.
* You bring your organized binder, plenty of binder paper, and a pen or pencil every day.
* You respect yourself, other students, Mr. Warren, school property, and other people’s belongings.
* You are honest and try your hardest to participate and learn.
* You support your group, encourage everyone to participate, and do your fair share of the work.
* You ask for help whenever you need it because it’s okay to not know everything.
* You allow yourself and your classmates to make mistakes and learn from them.
* You keep the classroom clean and organized.
* When the bell rings at the end of class, you are sitting silently in your assigned seat waiting to be dismissed.
* You follow the teacher’s instructions immediately without complaint.
* You maintain academic honesty (no cheating!)

**Choosing to not meet my expectations will have the following consequences:**

* 1st: (Reminder) You will review the class expectations.
* 2nd: We discuss after class what you will do to meet class expectations in the future.
* 3rd: You will complete a behavior reflection during detention (30min. at lunch or afterschool in B216).
* 4th: You will receive a 1hr. detention, call home, and be required to get a parent signature.
* 5th: You will receive a 1hr. detention, call home, and referral to your counselor.
* 6th: You will receive a 1hr. detention, and your counselor will schedule a parent conference.

**Binder Requirements**

* Bringing your binder to class every day is very important for all students
  + You need a 3-ring binder for this class to hold all papers for this class (I suggest 1 ½” or 2”)
  + Your binder may share space with other classes as long as these organizational requirements are met
  + If you cannot get a binder for any reason, please speak with Mr. Warren for help
* Your binder must be kept organized
  + All papers must be ordered by date and listed in the table of contents
  + You must keep all papers related to this class in the rings of this binder for the entire semester
* Binder checks will affect your grade and may require you to spend time after class organizing if necessary
  + You can find the table of contents for each section on the wall, on the class website, in an organized friend’s binder, or in Mr. Warren’s example binder.

**Grading**

* A progress report is sent home every 5 weeks, followed by the final report card at the end of the semester.
* Your grade will be determined mostly by assessments.
  + Assessments measure what you know and can do. You will be given a list of objectives for each unit, and I will give you multiple opportunities (projects and tests) to complete each of the objectives.
  + I will only give credit for high-quality work. If your work does not meet my expectations, I will return it to you with feedback so that you can revise and resubmit for full credit (no partial credit).
* Your binder, participation, class work, and homework will be a small part of your grade.
  + These points will be given as stamps on your papers and will be counted during binder checks
    - I will not keep track of your stamps, so you need to keep all of your papers organized!
  + Just “doing work” will not get you a good grade. You need to show evidence of your learning on tests and projects. However, NOT doing your work will probably not get you a good grade either.
  + The homework you are assigned will sometimes depend on how well you use your class time.

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| **Grading Scale** A+ = above 100%  A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 65-79% D = 50-64% F = below 50% | **Grading Marks**  **m** = missing (no credit)  **r** = revise & resubmit (half credit until revised, based on feedback)  **i** = incomplete (will not be graded until completed / please read instructions)  **√** = Objective Mastered (full credit)  **0** = Objective NOT Mastered (no credit)  **ex** = excused  **abs** = absent (see Mr. Warren for make-up) |

**Getting Help**

* If you need help outside of class time (advisory, lunch, after school), let me know!
* You may contact me outside of school if you have questions.
* Your classmates are a good resource to use (for learning, not for copying).
* There will be afterschool tutoring in the library (schedule coming soon).
* The class website has instructions and helpful resources to review.