**Dear Parent,**

As your child’s science teacher, I look forward to a productive and enjoyable school year. I am writing to inform you of what is expected of your son/daughter so that he/she can have success in my class:

1. **Good attendance.** If a student is frequently absent, it is almost impossible to pass. If your child misses a class, he/she is expected to make up missed work, both for credit and to stay even with the rest of the class.
2. **Being prepared for class.** Your child should always come to class with a pencil or pen, a notebook, and a calculator. Basic calculators are inexpensive and will be used throughout the year.
3. **A well-kept notebook.** Please provide your child with a notebook pad for class notes and assignments. Also, please instruct him/her to keep science notes separate from other subjects. Being organized enables students to better prepare for tests and quizzes and can make a big difference in grades.
4. **Completion of all assigned work.** I count homework, class work, and lab reports as a big part of the quarterly grade. Homework, lab reports, and research papers reinforce the concepts being presented and are therefore assigned often.
5. **Good behavior and consideration of others.** We all want your child to have a good, safe learning environment. This means that there cannot be any disruption of the learning process. Cell phone use is not allowed. Also, much instruction takes place in the lab. Therefore, proper attire is required for lab experiments and no fooling around will be tolerated. All classroom rules detailed in the student handbook apply.

**Thank you for your cooperation. Please feel free to call or write if you have any concerns. I look forward to meeting you at open house.**

**Sincerely,**

**Jill Pirie**

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(860) 923-9303 ext. 212

**College Prep Biology**

**Level III Course Number 1202**

**Grade 10 1 Credit**

**Class-wide Expectations:**

*1 Problem Solving*

*3 Information, Media, and Technology Skills*

*5 Cultural/Civic Awareness and Personal Responsibility*

Biology is the study of life. Therefore, understanding life and life processes depends on mastering the unifying principles and concepts applicable to all life forms. This course examines the fundamental unity in diversity of life forms. This program focuses on major life processes. In doing so, each process is discussed using a variety of examples from the kingdom of organisms. Students become aware that all organisms carry out the same life functions, and thus, the ways that organisms are adapted to carry out those functions can be better appreciated. Several classic experiments leading to the development of major principles are discussed and analyzed historically. In this way, students learn how scientists gather and organize information about the world.

Prerequisite: Physical Science and permission from instructor. **This class is required for graduation.**