

Mr. Sawyer's Expectations for Mathematics Assignments

Christ the King Catholic School

With regard to all mathematics, pre-algebra and algebra assignments in grades 6 through 8, the following written guidance supplements and supports that which is provided orally and within the *Classroom Procedures*. I expect neat, well-structured, well thought-out, high quality written assignments. Student-assigned iPads will be used to access the textbook, IXL Math and Xtra math. All assignments from the textbook will be completed using pencil and paper. You should:

- 1. Use lined paper or graph paper.** Lined and graph paper sized 8 ½" x 11" is a requirement for every handwritten assignment, including those for which a worksheet has been provided.
- 2. Construct a proper heading.** All papers are to be properly headed per the *Classroom Procedures*; name followed by student number, date, and the assignment number.
- 3. Design your paper with proper margins.** Written work should not begin until skipping at least one line below the heading. Students working with pencil and paper are to leave a 1-inch margin from the left edge of the paper before beginning work and strive for at least ½ inch to the right.
- 4. Be neat!** All work is to be done neatly and in pencil unless you are instructed to do the work digitally. Write the problem down and show your work. Simply jotting an answer down is unacceptable except on rare occasions that are pre-approved. Erasures are okay. Cross-outs are not! Use a straightedge for the creation of all pencil lines intended to be straight. Skip lines or columns between problems both horizontally and vertically.
- 5. Provide clarity to your organization.** Problem numbers should be clearly indicated, and no more than two problems should be placed across the paper. If you are doing two-column work, be sure to show where that second column's left-most margin begins by folding the paper in half. Use of the front *and* reverse of your paper is okay.
- 6. Identify the problem *and* the answer.** Write down all "given" information. Answers should include units and be circled or highlighted so that it is easily identified.
- 7. Do every assigned problem.** If you cannot complete a problem for some reason, I expect it to be written down on the paper, and I expect you to leave ample space to work the problem.
- 8. Check all of your own work.** Although calculators are generally not used in the classroom, you may check your arithmetic with a calculator at home, if desired. Furthermore, if assigned problems have answers available in the book, I expect you to check your answer against the key *after* working the problem.