**Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,**

Welcome to the new school year and the 7-White team. My name is Mr. Hoffman, and I will be your world cultures teacher for this year. I am looking forward to a very productive and exciting year. The following topics will be covered during this school year:

1. People of the Stone Age 5. Ancient China
2. Southwest Asia 6. Ancient Greece
3. Ancient Egypt/Nubia 7. Ancient Rome
4. India and Persia 8. Middles Ages/The World Today

Students will be using the Prentice Hall world cultures textbook. Access to the Internet will be needed and become very helpful in completing assignments. Students will be provided a Chromebook and it is their responsibility to make sure that all rules are followed for its use. The Chromebook will be their way to access the **google classroom**. All assignments and upcoming events will be posted here. If virtual due to unforeseen events students should report here for further instruction. If absent from school all work will be posted on the Google classroom. So **PLEASE** check on a regular basis for any work you might have missed.

Students will be prohibited from having cell phones on them in class. Devices should be always in lockers unless advised by the instructor.

Reading is an extremely important part for success in the future and nonfiction can be a very difficult type for many. To help improve students understanding of ancient world history and to practice the non-fiction genre we will be reading parts of Susan Wise Bauer’s historical account the Story of the World – History for the Classical Child Volume 1: Ancient Times. This is a four-part historical series that I have found very entertaining for all ages. Students will also be reading from the You Wouldn’t Want to be series. I highly recommend these books for all ages.

A three-ringed binder will also be needed since a variety of papers will be saved throughout the year. The notebook should have five dividers for: ***1. Notes/Vocabulary, 2. Question of the day, 3. Worksheets/Handouts, 4. Geography/Maps, 5. Projects/Tests and Quizzes.*** Students will be placing papers in their binders with guidance from me on a regular basis. This will help with organizational skills and will better prepare them for my class and all others in the future.

The following information will help to explain my homework and grading policies. I have gone over these with your son/daughter in school but would appreciate if you would look at them yourself. If you have any concerns or questions regarding the following information, please feel free to contact me, I would be happy to help. I can be reached at the Hamburg Area Middle School at 610-562-3990, or by emailing me at andhof@hasdhawks.org. Again, checking the google classroom for school assignments and other information is great for being proactive.

Again, I am looking forward to an exciting school year working with your son or daughter. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year and welcome any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Andrew Hoffman

**7-White World Cultures Homework Policy**

**Frequency:**

Homework will be given frequently in the form of short stories but also could include vocabulary, worksheets, projects, map identification and other various forms of exercises.

**Collection:**

All homework is due the day after the assignment was given, unless otherwise noted by Mr. Hoffman. Exceptions could include reports or projects. Valid excuses will be accepted for late assignments (death in family, personal injury, etc).

**Late Assignments:**

Without a valid excuse, late assignments will not be accepted and count as a zero. If you are absent, the homework is due the day after you return to school. It is your responsibility to turn these assignments in to Mr. Hoffman. It is your responsibility to ask for missed homework or check on google classroom. Homework left in your locker will count as a zero. Always check my website for the latest homework assignments.

* **Make sure you have your homework, pencil, textbook, notebook, and agenda with you before you come to World Cultures class every day. Points may be deducted if continually not prepared for class.**
* **I (your name) will not ask Mr. Hoffman to go to my locker for my homework, pencil, and agenda. This is my responsibility.**

**Evaluation/Grading:**

Homework is checked the day it is due and is graded based on either content mastery or completion. Incomplete assignments count as a zero. Any copying or sharing of work will result in zeroes for all persons involved and notification will be sent home. Grades will be based on homework, quizzes, tests, reports, projects, and notebooks. Calculating grades will be done by adding up all the points you have earned for the quarter and dividing by the possible number of points you could have earned. This will produce your percentage for the quarter.

**Example:**

Points earned: 785 points possible out of 857. Divide 785 by 857 and your percentage grade is 92%

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