

Dear Parents,

We can't believe it is already that time of the year, but we are almost at the halfway point and midterm week will be upon on us soon after we get back from the holiday break!

We are writing to let you know how we intend to proceed with midterm review to help prepare our students for the Earth Science midterm scheduled for the third week in January.

We have provided the students with 2 packets. The orange packet is titled the "Earth Science Top 55" and includes a breakdown of the key facts and concepts in each topic, as well as reminders of tasks students should be able to perform and the Reference Tables they should know how to use. The pink packet is a comprehensive set of review questions to help students recall and apply important concepts and practice the performance tasks. Due dates for each review assignment will be clearly explained to the students and posted on Google Classroom. For your reference, at the end of this message I have included all the important dates leading up to, and including, the midterm examination.

We gave the students the review material prior to the break because we know that midterms are a new experience for them and they need to learn how to manage their time to properly prepare. When available, we will give students time in class to complete some of these assignments (starting tomorrow, the Friday before break). Students need to use this time effectively to reduce the amount of take-home work they will have. This also gives students an opportunity to ask questions and receive direct assistance from one of us. Please monitor your child's progress regarding these assignments. If they just try and rush through it the night before a due date just to get it done, it defeats the intended purpose of doing review work. We will be checking the assignments, but will not put the pressure on the students by grading it for ultimate accuracy. With that being stated, many of the questions are multiple choice and students should not be haphazardly guessing to make the assignment look complete. We can easily tell when this is occurring, and credit cannot be earned for assignments completed this way. The students were also instructed to do the work in pencil so that easier corrections can be made when we go over the answers to the assignments with them in class.

We explained that reviewing for a big exam is a 3-step process. First, students must do some review work on their own; they need to see what they remember and what they can do without assistance. Second, we will do an in-class review of the answers so that students can assess their strengths and weaknesses. Third, students who need additional reinforcement can come and see us during a review session to further understand the material that they might be struggling with.

We appreciate the support you provide at home and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to one of us.

We hope you and your families have a great holiday break and a happy, healthy new year!

Best regards,

Christopher Romano
David Anderson

Please see next page for important dates.

Earth Science Ultimate Review Assignments (Pink Packet)

Due Dates:

Pages 1-8 Questions 1-49 – Due Monday, January 6

Pages 9-13 Questions 50-81 – Due Thursday, January 9

Pages 19-21 Questions 113-135 – Due Monday, January 13

(this assignment is also a review assignment for the last exam of the marking quarter)

Pages 14-18 Questions 82-112 - Due Thursday, January 16

Midterm Extra Review with Mr. Anderson (room B07)

Friday 1/3 - 7am – Topic 1 – Measurement and Graphing

Monday 1/6 - 2:20pm – Topic 2- Model of the Earth

Friday 1/10 - 7am – Topic 3 – Field Maps and Isolines

Monday 1/13 - 2:20pm – Topic 4a – Modern Astronomy

Friday 1/17 - 7am – Topic 4b – Earth Motions

Midterm Extra Review with Mr. Romano (room E96)

Monday 1/6 - 7am – Topic 2 – Model of the Earth

Wednesday 1/8 - 7am – Topic 3 – Field Maps and Isolines

Monday 1/13 - 7am – Topic 4c – Planetary Motions and the Moon

Wednesday 1/15 - 7am – Topic 6 – Insolation and the Seasons

*Once I know my proctoring schedule, I will also announce another session that I will run during midterm week – I will most likely do a “mock” mini-midterm for this final review session.

Tuesday 1/7 – Insolation and the Seasons Quiz

Wednesday 1/15 - Last Topic Exam of the Quarter: Topic 6 – Insolation and the Seasons

Earth Science Midterm – Thursday, January 23rd Session 3 - 12:30pm (room locations TBA)

50 multiple choice questions and 24 free response (this format is very similar to the Earth Science Regents which is 50 multiple choice and 35 free response questions)

Bring pencils, pen, and basic calculator

If there any changes to the dates provided above, we will be sure to send out a message via Google and/or Remind.