6th Grade Language Arts and Reading

Ms. Westerman

[olivia.westerman@springbranchisd.com](mailto:olivia.westerman@springbranchisd.com)

(713) 251 – 4686

In order to achieve all of our academic goals and maintain a learning environment in which all students can learn and flourish, there are rules that must be followed. The following information is to help you have a successful year in 6th grade language Arts.

Course Philosophy: Through the exploration of works from different genres, cultures, and time periods, students will learn universal truths and begin to recognize connections between literature and life.

Being Prepared

Every student should be prepared for class. This means every student will have books and required materials. It is your responsibility to bring all materials needed for class. Homework assignments are also a requirement of being prepared for class. If you are not prepared for class (missing materials or homework assignments), you will need to call home and makeup any work missed as a result of not being prepared for class. (This means you will need to attend ZAP lab or tutorials.)

Procedures for Entering the Classroom

Students will wait outside the door in a quiet, orderly fashion until the teacher is ready to invite them in for instruction. Once you are invited in, you are to do the following:

1. Get your required materials for class out and ready before the bell rings. Anything else needs to be put away neatly in your desk.
2. Sharpen pencils in necessary; otherwise take your assigned seat
3. Look at the objective board. Write down the objective and your homework assignment in your agenda book under the ‘Language Arts” section
4. Read the ActivBoard for further instructions
5. Be ready to start class BEFORE the bell rings.

Grading and Evaluation: All student projects, presentations, process (multi-draft) papers, and timed writing will be evaluated using scoring guides or rubrics that target specific objectives. Sometimes the teacher will evaluate student work; at other times, the student will receive commentary and feedback from peers. Occasionally, the student will evaluate his or her own work. Students will also practice necessary skills in a non-grading structure, freeing them to concentrate on the learning experience itself.

Grading Scale

* Homework – 15%
* Daily Work/ Quizzes – 35%
* Tests/ Projects – 50%
  + Students will be **required** to attend tutorials in order to retest in the event of failure

Bathroom/Water Fountain: No one is to go to the bathroom or get water during class time unless it is an EMERGENCY or you have a condition that has been cleared with the nurse. Passing periods between classes is your time to use the bathroom and get water.

 Late Work Policy:

* Students who turn in assignments one day late will receive a maximum grade of 75%
* Students who turn in assignments two days late will receive a maximum grade of 50%
* Students will receive a zero for assignments later than two days

If You Are Late To Class

1. You must obtain a late/ tardy pass from the front office or the teacher that you are coming from
2. Do not disturb the class. Take your assigned seat, quietly
3. DO NOT hand me your pass. Leave it at the corner of your desk and I will come around to sign it
4. If you do not have a pass, you will serve lunch detention for being tardy

If You Are Absent: If you know you are going to be absent for more than one day, notify me as soon as possible. Otherwise, check on our class blog site for homework assignment, daily assignment, and other materials you might have missed. Whatever information is posted on the blog site you will be held responsible to complete. If you do not have access to our blog, call or email me as soon as possible. If you are unable to call/ email or visit or blog site, you will receive ONE day to make up your required work. If you miss a test/ quiz, you will be expected to take a makeup test before school starts, during your lunch period, or after school.

Homework

Homework will be assigned and written on the board every day. It is your responsibility to write your homework assignment in your agenda.

Materials

* 1.5” Binder\*
* 3 Small Glue Sticks\*
* 1 pocket folder with holes\*
* 1 pack of lined paper\*
* 1 pack of printer paper\*
* 1 pack of post-it notes – any color\*
* 1 or more box of Kleenex\*
* Pens – black/ blue and red
* Pencils – Mechanical or Standard
* 2 Highlighters – any color
  + \*\*NOTE: Materials with Star will stay in classroom

Tutoring Schedule

I will hold tutorials Monday- Thursday from 3:45 – 4:25 PM. If you cannot attend, please see me to set up an appointment.

Website

Our class will use a blog that will be updated frequently with assignments, homework and important class information. This can be found at:

[www.dkjfsklfjdskfjs.com](http://www.dkjfsklfjdskfjs.com)