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**2013-2014 Syllabus and Guidelines for Success**

**Sixth Grade Language Arts**

**Mrs. Amori and Mrs. Muscillo**

**mamori@eds.misd.net****jmuscillo@eds.misd.net**

**Welcome parents and students! \*\*\*Please sign and return after you have read and discussed this syllabus with your child. It will count as a homework grade! \*\*\***

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. The class will cover different genres in literature such as: **fiction** (novels, short stories, myths, folktales, fables and poetry) and **non-fiction** (autobiographies, biographies, essays, histories, interviews and informational articles). We will use close and critical reading strategies to examine these genres.
2. Students will improve as writers. We will focus on the common core writing standards which include informative/explanatory writing, argument writing and narrative writing.
3. Students will improve communication skills through listening, speaking, vocabulary study and learning proper grammar and spelling usage.

**GRADING:**

A=100-90% B=89-80% C=79-70% D=69-60% F=59-0%

Students will be graded on homework, participation, daily work including warm-ups, quizzes, tests and projects.

Quizzes **may not** be retaken. Tests **may be** retaken within one week of the original test date. This must be done on the student’s own time and arranged in advance with the teacher. **Parents must sign the original test and the student should correct their errors AND STUDY before a retest will be given.** Homework Club or Star Hour may be an option for test retakes.

**HOMEWORK:**

Homework assignments are due and collected **at the beginning of class!**

**LATE WORK:**

If an assignment is turned in late, it will only receive ½ credit and only be accepted until the end of the Unit of study. Turning work in on time is part of being responsible.

**Please note that assignments are always readily available in the classroom for students to get on their own.**

**MISSING WORK:**

All work not turned in will be given a “zero”. Papers with **no name** are considered missing work.

**ABSENT WORK:**

Absent students are responsible for getting the work they missed the day they return from their absence. If a student will be absent longer than two days, please call the office to request work from all teachers.

**SUPPLIES:**

Students are expected to **use their** **planners every day in every class!** Planners will also serve as a pass to travel the hallways to the office, restroom, counselor, etc. and must be signed by a teacher in order to leave the classroom. **No planner=no pass!**

**Students are expected to bring two sharpened pencils, an eraser, a red checking pen, loose-leaf paper and a homework folder to class each day.** A pencil pouch with extra pens and pencils as well as a highlighter is also highly recommended. A zippered binder also works well to store supplies, folders and papers for all classes. Successful students are well-organized!

**We appreciate donations of Kleenex, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes that will be used throughout the year, especially during cold and flu season.**

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS: We will be following the KMS Code of Honor!**

**RESPECTFUL:**

* listen w/o talking when others are speaking
* use kind words
* raise hand to speak
* keep hands and feet to self

**RESPONSIBLE:**

* bring supplies
* turn in homework on time
* follow directions
* take care of classroom books and supplies
* clean-up workspace before leaving the classroom

**READY:**

* Have planner at appropriate times
* Walk promptly to your destination

**PLEASE RETURN THE SLIP BELOW FOR HOMEWORK CREDIT!**

**WE DID OUR HOMEWORK!**

**STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ HOUR: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**