

**6th Grade Language Arts**

Apex Middle 2017-2018

Mrs. Julie Piner

Dear Parents and Students,

I am a North Carolina State University graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Language Arts and Social Studies. I am passionate about teaching, and I am anticipating a wonderful school year. Please feel free to contact me throughout the school year at [jpiner@wcpss.net](mailto:jpiner@wcpss.net).

**ABOUT THE CLASS**

The 6th grade Language Arts Curriculum includes reading, writing, and vocabulary. Students will participate in a variety of classroom activities to demonstrate proficiency in these areas. My goal is to help students develop strategies that will enable them to grow as readers and writers, and to effectively handle the challenges of the middle school curriculum. Students will read novels and other texts during class and at home.

**CLASS MATERIALS**

* 3-ring binder
* 1 spiral notebook with 3 subjects
* #2 pencils (bring more than one to class)
* Notebook paper
* Hand-held pencil sharpener
* Highlighters

**HOMEWORK**

* The “Article of the Week” will be assigned each Monday, and it is due each Friday. Students should spend time working on this assignment each night at home.
* Students will also be expected to read at least **20 minutes** each night.
* Additional homework may be assigned to reinforce concepts learned in class.

**READING**

Students are expected to read at home. Time will be given in class to read when possible. **Students must bring a book to read each day in order to benefit from possible extra reading time**. As a class we will visit the school media center on a regular basis, so every student will have an opportunity to choose books he/she would enjoy reading. My goal is to broaden students’ reading interests to a variety of genres, as well as increase the quantity of books each student reads per week. Students will read this year with an end goal of completing the “40 Book Challenge.”

**GRADING**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Minor Assessments 40%**   * Classwork * Minor assessments | **Major Assessments 60%**   * Tests + Quizzes * Projects * Article of the Week * Major writing assignments | http://www.cpa.charter.k12.mn.us/images/parent_faq/clipart_grades.jpg | **Grading Scale**  90-100 = A  80-89 = B  70-79 = C  60-69 = D  Below 60 = F |

**\*Please note that there are no extra credit opportunities provided or accepted.**

**MAKE-UP WORK**

When you are absent from school, you are expected to find out what you missed in Language Arts. When you return to school after being absent, you will have two school days to hand in assignments. You should hand all make-up work directly to the teacher.

**EXTRA HELP**

If you need extra help in Language Arts for any reason, please let me know. I am here to help you understand the material and be successful in this class. The best time to work with me for extra help is during Cougar Achievement Time (CAT).

**COMMUNICATION**

The Leopard Team teachers will send out a weekly email each Friday. Information regarding the course of study, assignments, and due dates will be included in the weekly email. You may sign up to be added to the parent email list at orientation, or you can email the team teachers and request to be added at any point throughout the school year.

You may also contact me either via email or telephone:

* E-mail me at school at jpiner@wcpss.net
* Leave a message at the school by calling (919) 387-2181

I look forward to working with you and your child to help him/her have a successful transition to middle school.

Sincerely,

Julie Piner

**Please sign and return the syllabus to your Language Arts teacher by Friday, September 1st.**

**By signing your name, you are acknowledging that you have read and understand this letter.**

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_