

LANGUAGE ARTS

"That is part of the beauty of literature. You discover that your longings are universal longings, that you're not lonely and isolated from anyone. You belong" – F. Scott Fitzgerald

Class Rules

1. Follow directions the first time
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak
3. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat
4. Make smart choices.
5. Respect yourself, your peers, your teachers, and your school

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

As per JMA rules, cell phones and electronic devices (excluding Chromebooks when used under teacher direction) operate on an "If I see it or hear it, I take it" policy. Cell phones are to remain turned off and in your locker during the day.:

1st Offense: Confiscated and turned into office for parent pick-up

2nd Offense: Confiscated and turned into office for parent pick-up with OSD assigned

3rd Offense: Confiscated and turned into office for parent pick-up with OSD assigned

4th Offense: Confiscated and turned into office for parent pick-up with ISS assigned

Please also see CMS Code of Conduct Section IV, Rule 5

Course Description

Welcome to 6th Grade Language Arts! Our focus this school year will be learning and developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. The development and mastery of these important literary skills not only is important to achieving success in the Language Arts classroom, it is a critical component of achieving success in other school subjects, building strong relationships with others, and attaining a flourishing career as an adult. Basically, the quality of life you experience now through adulthood will depend a lot on how well you read, write, and communicate with others



What do I get if I follow class rules?

Your appropriate behavior in class assures everyone of an environment conducive to learning. Some possible rewards for continuous appropriate behavior are: intrinsic value (satisfaction of learning), improved skills, verbal praise, positive note to parents, tangible trinkets, and special class activities / privileges

What are the consequences if I don't follow class rules?

1. Warning: the teacher provides a verbal reprimand/reminder to scholar.
2. Loss of Privilege: Silent lunch, moving seats, etc
3. Reflection Sheet & Phone Call Home: Scholar will reflect on their actions/choices and complete a behavior reflection sheet, and parents will be contacted
4. Removal: Scholars will be removed from classroom and to a separate location

Where do I go to find info and assignments?

Remind will be a great way to receive reminders and announcements for our class. Please take home the remind sign-up page home and download the app or sign up for text message updates

Google Classroom or Canvas is where many class assignments, discussions, and projects will be posted and turned in. Class code:

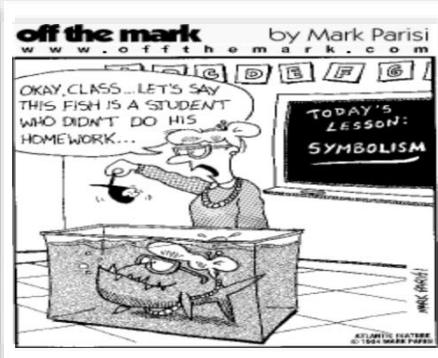
Class Website: <http://crismoreclassroom.weebly.com>

What happens if I turn in an assignment late?

Work not completed and turned in by the assigned date is considered late. If a scholar is absent on the date work is due, the assignment is due the first day the scholar returns to school. COMPLETED LATE WORK will only receive partial credit (70% of the assignment total). INCOMPLETE LATE WORK will not be graded and will result in a zero for the assignment.

Grade Scale

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



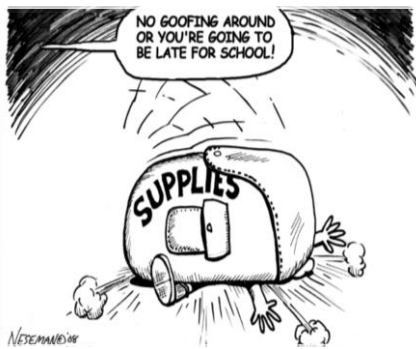
Grade Breakdown

Informal Assessments = 35% of grade

- Homework, in-class assignments, binder checks, participation

Formal Assessments = 65% of grade

- Tests, projects, quizzes



Supplies

- Pen
- Loose leaf paper
- Notebook
- Your 3" binder with dividers
- Markers or Colored Pencils as needed for projects

How will I check my grade in class?

Parents and scholars are also strongly encouraged to check the Parent Portal on a weekly basis to view the most current grades for EVERY class. Grades in this class will be updated at least once every two weeks. Progress reports will also be sent home on paper throughout each quarter.

What do I do if I am absent?

Your missing work is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! Always check the class site AND Google classroom/Canvas for any information. A scholar has two extra days to turn in any work assigned on a day a scholar was absent. Assignments due on the day you were absent are due your first day back, or they are late. If a quiz was administered on a day a scholar was absent, the quiz must be made up on the first day the scholar returns.

Do I have to read outside of class?

All scholars will be expected to read independently on a daily basis. Scholars must bring a reading book to school so they are prepared for independent reading during Language Arts. Furthermore, novel studies will be part of the curriculum. Scholars should continue to read a self-selected book independently as well as whatever novel is being studied.

What types of information will I learn this year?

6th grade is the beginning of middle school! Now that scholars are getting older and becoming more mature, a stronger emphasis on self-starting and independent problem-solving will be implemented. In this class, we will have daily grammar and/or vocabulary lessons, as well as text-based content. Expect some novel studies, but also know that we will have a larger focus on informational text than scholars may have had before now. The IB Programme relies heavily on inquiry-based learning and understanding big concepts as they appear in all disciplines.

What will be in my binder?

Although we will utilize many types of technology, on-paper assignments will still be assigned. The binder will be a portfolio of scholar work. The in-class handouts will be the scholars' main note-taking and activity completion tool. The majority of classwork, notes, and study guides will be completed in the binder, so it is imperative that it be complete and up to date.

What is our vocabulary/grammar program?

We will use the Academic Vocabulary Toolkit by Dr. Kate Kinsella and Teresa Hancock. The AVT is an in-depth study of academic words with grammar lessons built in. Scholars will complete this work in class in a workbook. Unit tests will occur every 6 weeks.

What is the IB Programme?

IB stands for International Baccalaureate. All scholars, regardless of if they are "technically" enrolled in the IB program, will be completing IB coursework. IB scholars follow the IB Learner Profile, and are expected to become reflective, inquirers, caring, balanced, knowledgeable, risk-takers, communicators, open-minded, thinkers, and principled. More information about IB can be found at <http://www.ibo.org/programmes/middle-years-programme/>

PLEASE **READ** THE COURSE INFORMATION, **Sign**, AND **RETURN** THIS SHEET TO MRS. CRISMORE.

Scholars:

Please sign below to signify that you have read the course sheet for Mrs. Crismore's class. Your signature indicates you will keep it in your agenda, will be responsible for the information throughout the year, and will check Parent Portal at least once per week at school or at home.

Scholar printed name

Scholar signature

Parents/Guardians:

Check all the statements that apply to how you would like to communicate with Mrs. Crismore about your scholar's progress. I will, of course, call for major concerns or accomplishments, but with approximately 120 scholars, I like to know how you'd prefer to communicate.

_____ I/We have internet access at home, so we will check Parent Portal at least once per week to check on my/our scholar's progress I/We will contact Mrs. Crismore about any concerns we have.

_____ I/We plan to email Mrs. Crismore weekly or monthly for an update.

_____ I/We do not have internet access at home, but I/we would like to have regular contact with Mrs. Crismore. I/we will call for an update on a regular basis.

_____ Other: _____

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the course sheet for Mrs. Crismore's class and that you will help your scholar be accountable for the information. If you have questions about the course or your scholar's work, please do not hesitate to contact me; **texting the number below is the best way to reach me quickly.** If it is after 6pm or on a weekend, please understand that I may not respond immediately. I will do my best to respond in 24 hours or less.

Parent/Guardian printed name

Parent/Guardian signature

Parent/Guardian e-mail
(please print)

Parent/Guardian daytime phone number

Parents and guardians, please CIRCLE the best way for me to contact you:
e-mail **phone**