

Welcome to Sixth Grade

Welcome back, and hope you had a great summer! We all, (the priests, administration, and staff), have kept you in our prayers as we prepared for this year. As your child begins their journey through their first year of jr. high, I believe working together as a team is important to their success. Sixth grade is both a fun and challenging year, and I want your child to be successful. This year we will be focusing on the theme: We Are called To Act With Justice. We will continue to be aware of each other's gifts from the Spirit as we grow academically and in our faith journey.

Thank you in advance for the support you give, to all the sixth grade students and our community, this year!

Nuts and Bolts of the Jr. High

Curriculum – Sixth grade students will study Language Arts with me. They will study Science with Mrs. Sidebotham, Religion with Mrs. Quinn, Social Studies with Mr. Lecheler and Math with either Mr. Lecheler or me.

and negative numbers, as well as, fractions, graphing, basic geometry, and ratios. This year students will focus on strengthening their math skills and begin exploring pre-algebra which they study in the seventh grade. Students will be placed with either Mr. Lecheler or me. Splitting the class in two groups allows for more individualized instruction.

Language Arts - Reading (Literature, Novels, Book Reports) ,Writing, Grammar (Daily Oral Language [DOL]) vocabulary, speaking and listening. Students will be required to read one book a week beginning next week. A reading book should be with your student at all times.

Homework – Homework is an extension of what is being learned in class and will be posted daily on the board. There will be homework every night including some weekends. Any assignment that is not on time will be counted as late, but can be turned in the next day. After that day it will not be accepted and will receive a zero. (See the Junior High Policies) The students will be responsible for writing the assignments in their Planners,

completing the work and having it ready to turn in when they walk in the classroom. It will be considered late after that time. There is not a central homework board for sixth grade, so students must write down their homework during each class. This is an excellent preparation for seventh grade. **If parents drop off homework in the office, it will be delivered at the end of the day, and counted as late.**

Missing Assignments – When a student forgets a homework assignment, or has an incomplete assignment, I will make note of it, but there is no written MA. The work is due by the next day. The student will write Late on their paper, date it, and turn it in to the homework bin. The assignment will be recorded as a missing assignment. That missing assignment affects the homework grade on the report card. Every missing assignment that a student receives from any teacher will be recorded and at grading time sent to me. I will deduct 1% for each missing assignment. The resulting percentage will translate into the Homework grade on the report card. Please be vigilant, if a student's Homework grade drops to a C+ or lower he/she will not be eligible for Honor Roll. If a student's Homework grade drops below a C (2.0), he/she will not be eligible for any Extra-curricular activities.

Signatures – All graded tests and quizzes will require a parent signature. That signature will be due the day after I hand back the test. Signatures will be counted as homework. Each signature assignment is worth 1 point. If your student brings the signature in on time, he/she will receive 1 point. If he/she does not, he/she will receive a 0. The missing signature will also count against the Homework grade as a Missing Assignment. There is no partial credit for a made up signature.

Grading Scale – The Diocese of San Jose has set a new grading scale for elementary schools. This scale lines up with the grading scales of the high schools.

Percentage	Letter Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 and below	F

Discipline

In order to promote a successful learning environment, discipline has to be maintained in the classroom. Our class has rules that need to be followed, and I will use a variety of methods to do this. I will be following the Discipline policy outlined in the Junior High Policies. All students start over each trimester with a clean slate.

Bathroom Use – Students may use the restroom before school, at recess, lunch, or after school. They will not be allowed to leave the class to use the restroom. If it is an emergency, they can come to me and tell me and they may be allowed to go at my discretion.

Uniforms – I expect every sixth grader to be in full uniform every day. You will all have a copy of the Parent/Student handbook and the policy is clearly stated. Any student who is

out of uniform will receive a Uniform Violation Form. This must be signed by parents and returned the next day. If a student receives a Uniform Violation Form from one teacher, they will not receive one from another teacher that day IF the student can produce the form to prove that they have already received one. There is one exception to this rule. All students are expected to have their shirts tucked in before they enter each classroom. If their shirt is untucked, they will receive a Uniform Violation. If they are untucked in each class that they attend, they will receive a Uniform Violation slip in each class. Each Uniform Violation results in a 1% deduction off their conduct grade. Four uniform violation forms will result in a detention.

Lockers – Sixth grade students received their Locks and Locker Agreement form. Please return the signed form along with the \$10 fee. The students will receive their Locks and Lockers on Friday, **if after they have returned their agreement and \$10**. All school-related materials should be kept in the student's lockers. Students may not attach anything to their lockers with tape or glue. Students may use magnets and shelves to personalize their lockers. Students may go to their locker before school, at recess, lunch or after school. Students should not need to go to their locker during passing periods, and students will not go to their lockers during class time. **Lockers must be locked at all times.**

Student Absence

Don't be absent!!! We accomplish so much in sixth grade every day that students are at a real disadvantage if they miss even one day, or part of a day. Please try to plan appointments when there is a minimum of disruption to your student's academic success. If your student is absent you may come in after school and receive that day's work list and talk to me. Please call the school and ask them to request homework from all of your student's teachers. A REMINDER: If your child is absent, you must call or e-mail the office on the morning of the absence.

Communication

Communication is the key to our successful relationship. The best way to reach me is to e-mail me at jamontagne@stcatherinemh.org. I check my e-mail daily. I will be e-mailing newsletters for 6th grade.

Teacher Availability

I am available before or after school if I'm not on yard duty. Please stop in with quick questions. If you really need to stop in and talk it is best to make an appointment so that I can give you the time you deserve. Contacting me by e-mail is an excellent way to

reach me. I check it during the day and night. Many times we can quickly resolve problems by e-mail.

jlamontagne@stcatherinemh.org.

Please sign and return this page by Tuesday, August 23.

I look forward to a great year. Please stop by an introduce yourself.

Peace,

Jennifer Lamontagne

I have read the 6th Grade Welcome Letter.

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Student's Printed Name

Date: _____