



# Welcome to Sixth Grade!

I am so excited for this school year! My name is Emily Dick. I was raised on a farm between Corn and Bessie. I graduated from WOCS and CBA and went on to get my Elementary Education degree from Southern Nazarene University. I love exploring the world and meeting the different people God has created. I also love sports and the values they teach through teamwork about life and have coached volleyball and basketball in my career.

I enjoy getting to know my students and helping them on their journey of discovering who God is and who He has created them to be, not only in the future, but right now as sixth graders.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me through GroupMe or email anytime. I will do my best to answer your questions and get back to you as soon as I am able.

Please read over this handbook and let me know if you have any questions about our classroom policies. Also, please answer the questions, sign and return the back page letting me know you have read through the handbook. I can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for us this year!

Miss Emily Dick

E-mail: sixthgrade2@wocs.org

## **Contact Information:**

You will be going through me initially for basically all of your questions, but if for any reason you need to contact your child's other teacher, here is her email address.

Miss Abigayle Reimer

cfifthgrade@wocs.org

# **Policies & Procedures**

- <u>Discipline/Classroom Management:</u> Students will follow the school's Discipline Policy found in the Student
  Handbook, as well as agree to follow the respective classroom rules and policies of Miss Dick, Miss Reimer, and other
  Specials and Elective Teachers.
- Tardies: We will be giving the students breaks between classes to get their books, go to the bathroom, get a drink, etc. We will give a tardy to the students that are wasting their time and late to class. The first tardy is a warning; the second (and the following) will result in loss of recess time.
- Lockers: Each student will be assigned a locker in the hallway to keep their books, backpacks, jackets, etc.
- Homework: We will not regularly assign homework (outside of studying for quizzes and tests), although they will occasionally have some. Most of the homework the students will have will be whatever they haven't finished in class. We will do our best to not assign homework on Wednesday nights so the students are able to go to church. Any work turned in late will be 10% off each day it is late.
- Absent Work: If your child is absent, they will be expected to make up any work missed for the days they are gone. They will have one day per day absent to finish any work they have missed. If they miss any scheduled tests and were present in class to have all study materials, they will be expected to take any missed tests on the day they return. If they return on a spelling day, they will still be expected to have their spelling completed and be prepared for the test.
- Required Reading: Students will be required to read a certain amount of pages each month from the month of
  September to the month of April. Required Reading is fora grade. Students will have the opportunity to receive a
  reward each month for completing the required reading, as well as be able to attend a party at the end of the year if
  they complete each month. There will also be bonus rewards for students who read the most pages and go above and
  beyond with their reading.

#### Requirements

- Fifth grade -350 pages
- Sixth grade- 450 pages
- Each student will have to read one book each month from a required reading list and take a quiz on that book. (This book counts toward their required pages.)
- Must read at least one book they have not read before each month.
- NO Graphic novels (they may read these on their own time)
- Use the Reading Log to record the date finished, genre of book, title of book, author of book, pages in book, star rating of book, and why they chose that rating.
- Students must have a parent/guardian sign their log before turning it in to show they have indeed read throughout the month.
- Reading logs will be due the first day (that falls on a school day) of the next month.

- <u>Tests & Quizzes:</u> All tests & quizzes will be announced in class ahead of time and will also be included in my
  newsletter for the week.
  - Math (Miss Dick): There will be a math assignment daily. I will do my best to give them enough time to finish in class, but if they do not finish, it will be homework. There will be a test or quiz each week in math. Students will be allowed to correct all math tests for half credit regardless of the grade. The tests will come home in the Tuesday folder and any corrections must be turned back in before the next test.
  - Science (Miss Dick): Students will complete a few hands-on projects throughout the year. I will send home more details when the time comes for each project. Two or three quizzes will be given throughout each chapter, and tests will be given at the end of each chapter. There will be a study guide assigned prior to each quiz. These study guides will also serve as the study guide for the test, so students need to keep them in their "keep papers" folder once they have taken the quiz. Students may also write the vocabulary words and definitions from each chapter for extra credit. They must be turned in before I give the test. Students may also write the vocabulary words and definitions from each chapter for extra credit. They must be turned in before I give the test. Students will also have the opportunity for bonus points on each test by writing down any extra information that they remember from the chapter but weren't tested on.
  - History (Miss Dick): Students will have a quiz and test for each chapter. They will be announced in class several days ahead of time. They will complete several projects throughout the year. I will send out more information along with rubrics and the exact due dates when the time comes.
  - Spelling (Miss Reimer): Spelling days will be held each Tuesday. We will have a test over all the words as well as grade the spelling book pages. The students will write each spelling word three times each in cursive and write a sentence using that word (also in cursive) for another homework grade. These are due before the test on Tuesday. Once we have wrapped up each lesson with the test, I will assign the next lesson.
  - Language (Miss Reimer): Students will complete daily language assignments where they will occasionally have homework from work that they did not complete in class. There will be an occasional quiz within the unit and a test at the end of each unit. We will be journaling every day as well as completing short writing assignments connected with Reading. We will also complete several Writing projects (one every nine weeks) which relates to the book study. A rubric and instructions will be provided for each project when it is time.
  - Reading (Miss Reimer): Students will complete one book study every nine weeks. This includes daily assignments relating to the book being read. We will occasionally complete assignments through their reading curriculum as well. We will have a reading comprehension test every few weeks (Tuesdays)— this requires no preparation. Required Reading will be a part of the students' Reading grade.
  - Bible (Miss Dick): Students will be tested over a memory verse each week. They will have a unit test every two weeks. They may occasionally have some homework pages as well. Memory Verses can be found on www.deeprootsbible.com.
  - Electives: Students have the option of taking different electives on Tuesday afternoons. They are choosing these classes the first Tuesday of the year. Electives are a privilege and students will be expected to respect and obey the elective teachers and abide by the school discipline policy.

- Redos: Students may redo assignments with a grade below 70% and an 80% or below average grade; however, they will only receive 50% credit for the corrected questions. Any redos will come home with the graded papers in the Tuesday folder each week.
- <u>Service Project:</u> We will be going back to the V.A. Center this year to play BINGO with the residents! I will be sending out more information about this in a separate note.
- <u>Class Parties:</u> You have the opportunity to sign up to help with one or more class parties through an emailed Sign-Up Genius Link.
  - \* Christmas Party: Friday, December 20, 12:30-1:30
  - \* God's Love Party: Friday, February 14, 2:00-3:00
  - \* Resurrection Party: Thursday, April 17, 2:00-3:00
- Birthday Parties: We will celebrate every child's birthday one day out of the year. If their birthday is on a school day, we will plan to celebrate it that day, unless you ask otherwise; if it is not on a school day, we will pick another day during the year to celebrate it. At the end of this packet, you may sign up for a date that you would prefer to celebrate your child's birthday. When it comes closer to the date, we can work together at what time during the day would work best.

You are more than welcome to come to school and bring treats for all the students, but no gifts please. If you would rather send treats with your child, that is fine as well, and we will take time to celebrate it in class. I am also fine with celebrating during lunch, if that is what you would prefer. All I ask is that you contact me ahead of time with your plans!

- Field Trips: We will only be attending one other field trip this year due to taking the best field trip to Washington, D.C.! We will take a whole sixth grade fun trip later in the year. I will send more information once that gets scheduled.
- Cell Phone Policy: If a student has a cell phone, it is to be turned off during the school day. If they are caught using them during the day, I will take it and give it back to the parent. If a student has a smart watch, it is only to be used for telling time. It will be taken away if a student is caught playing games or sending/receiving messages. They are allowed to have their phones on field trips to take pictures only. If this privilege is abused, it will be taken away by the teacher per the cell phone policy in the school handbook.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Please note that the students will also be in Miss Reimer's room for some classes. They will be expected to abide by the same rules and obey the teachers at all times. All of the above is subject to change at the teacher's discretion; however, if something changes, I will let you know in a note. Thank you for all your support.\*\*

# -Miss Dick's Classroom Management Plan-

## "My Heart is a Garden"

The plan I am creating to use this year is based on "The Parable of the Sower" from Matthew 13:1-23.

This parable gives us a picture of the kingdom of God and His focus being our hearts. The goal is to encourage students to have a fluid relationship with God, living their life from that understanding and truth. In that relationship, they will then be totally involved in growing spiritually strong and scholastically sound. We will do this by implementing an object lesson of the parable throughout the year. Students will have opportunities in class to prayerfully evaluate themselves and their hearts, working with the Holy Spirit to tend to their soil.

#### Classroom Conduct:

These are the core reminders students will receive and have the opportunity to grow in:

- God Above All
  - O "I have set the Lord before me...I shall not be shaken" Psalms 16:8
- Respect + Love Others
  - O "bear with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit" Ephesians 4:2-3
- Check Your Attitude
  - O "to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace" Romans 8:6
- Do Your Best
  - O "my grace is sufficient for you" 2 Corinthians 12:9

#### Soil + Fruit:

The seeds from Jesus a student chooses to receive will be acknowledged in this portion. In the parable, seeds were sown in every type of soil – hard, rocky, thorny, good. Throughout their time in my class, students will have the opportunity to evaluate themselves and their hearts through prayer and the Holy Spirit and which type of soil they are.

Students will have opportunities to receive privileges and rewards both individually and as a class, experiencing the "fruit" 100/60/30. Individually, they will have the opportunity to receive something weekly. As a class, they will have the opportunity to receive something monthly. Their evaluation coupled with my partnership through prayer and the Holy Spirit will determine their fruit.

Fruit includes, but is not limited to the following: coupons to be used on classwork or perks in class, encouraging notes from teachers/classmates, snacks, Keurig drink, game time, extra recess time, watch a show/short movie, etc.

### Weed Seeds:

The application of the parable when it comes to consequences is still relevant to planting, but instead of receiving the seeds Jesus plants in us, we choose to receive other seeds — we say the thoughts that come to our mind that are not kind, peaceful, and loving, or we feel hurt by someone so we take the seed from that fruit (i.e. anger, fear) and do something to hurt someone else, or we distract our friend instead of encouraging focus. I am calling these "weed seeds".

Jesus does not condemn us for this, but instead with the Holy Spirit gives us opportunities to work out our faith and tend to our soil.

As an overarching plan, we will follow the school discipline policy regarding consequences.

Tasks used as opportunities to acknowledge the heart and "work out the weeds" may include, but are not limited to the following: time away from recess, time away from specials, filling out a reflection form, writing an apology note, space for reflection and correction, new chance to respond in kindness and compassion, extra cleaning assignments, rearranging of desks, inability to participate in privileges, etc.

(Because this is a new plan I am creating, I am sure there will be some new revelations to be had and kinks to work out. For this reason, I ask for your prayers and patience as I walk with God to discern the best ways to implement this. I will continue to communicate with you about this!)



# Please fill out, sign, detach, and return in Tuesday folder. 1. Describe your child's strengths and interests. 2. What types of things motivate your child? 3. Do you have any special concerns about your child? (academically, socially, mentally, etc.) 4. Please list any foods, stings, etc. that may cause allergic reactions with your child. 5. Please list two goals you would like to set for your child this year. 6. When would you like to celebrate your child's birthday? 7. Is there anything else you would like me to know about your child or any questions you may have? I have read and understand all policies and procedures laid out in Miss Dick's Homeroom Handbook and gone over them with my child. Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_