

Mrs. Shaw's  
5th/6th Grade  
Syllabus  
2024-2025



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# Mrs. Shaw

## 5th/6th Grade

Dear Families,

I have put together a small packet of information about our class policies and procedures that may be helpful for you as we start this school year. Please read through everything carefully, and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out and ask me. You can reach me during my planning times at school, or you are welcome to text my cell with any questions. Please do not text or call me after 6pm. or before 7a.m. If you need a quick answer on something you may want to reach out to another class parent to see if they can help you first or post it on our class GROUPME.

### **NEWSLETTER**

You'll receive 5th/6th combined weekly newsletter every Monday through the school's email or by paper on Tuesday, whichever you signed up for. It will have activities, upcoming events, important dates, curriculum overview, and any special announcements. I will sometimes also send messages as needed through GROUPME, our parent communication system this year so make sure you check it too please.

### **GRADING**

I will usually send graded papers home every few days. Grades will be posted on FACTS at least once a week for my classes. Please be aware that our grades will consist of oral, participation, written, homework, tests, projects, and others. Not every graded paper I send home is recorded in the gradebook. If you have questions about grades, then please contact me at the school. Also, if a student scores below a 70 on a graded paper that is not a test, they will have the opportunity to redo it for half credit within a 2-3 day period. Test grades will not be allowed to be redone and so you'll want to make sure your child prepares for those accordingly. For any daily assignments there will be points deducted off the grade for work that is more than 2 days late. Once we take a unit/chapter test in any subject then daily work will not be accepted for a grade. For every class I teach I will have some sort of opportunity for bonus points during each nine week period. But these will be small additions to the grade and not given weekly so students shouldn't count on these to help a lot.

### **FOLDERS**

The students will have folders this year that will be sent home/returned every day for the Science & History that I'm teaching. Inside a folder there will be a weekly homework assignment sheet in one of the folders. The students' work for each chapter/unit in Science/History should be kept together in the folder until we test on that material, and then can be replaced with new material. I will send daily work that is completed and scored home in a folder as well as any homework. On Tuesday's you will receive the school's blue folder containing any special notes from the school, etc. Please make sure to return these the next day as sometimes we have time sensitive information in them.

## **HOMEWORK & ABSENCES**

In our class if the student is using their time wisely they should complete most daily work during our class period. Of course we will review in class for all quizzes and tests that will be given, but they should be reviewing for these at home as well. There will be a few projects in each nine weeks that are hands-on projects and will require some time at home to prepare as well. These are meant to be fun learning experiences that are not expensive and super time consuming. If your child has to miss school for any reason, you can also access the Lesson Plans on FACTS to see what the assignments are for the day missed. Any time a student is absent they will be given the number of days missed to make up any work that was missed. For my class the students will have a homework assignment sheet for each week to log daily if they have things to complete at home. This is a wonderful tool as it allows the students to take responsibility for logging their own homework individually and makes it easy for you as a parent to check what they need to do.

## **BIRTHDAY'S**

If their birthday is in the summer we will celebrate it in May before school is out. On their birthday if you wish to send a special class snack and drinks you can, just let me know so we can plan for it. We will also call them on stage at chapel to pray over them a birthday blessing and celebrate them.

## **CLASS PARTIES**

We will celebrate three holiday's with parties this year. One of the teachers will send a letter home reminding you as they get closer, and asking for parents to sign up that wish to help. Like last year only the parents who signed up for each party will be allowed to attend. Also, please remember we do not celebrate santa, cupids, Halloween, or the easter bunny at school. We will celebrate Christmas, God's Love, & Resurrection.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

The class will take several field trips throughout the school year as we can. One of the teachers will be working on setting them up and will send notes with dates, times, and information as it gets closer. We always need help transporting, so if you're available please fill out the necessary forms with the office. We will send more details when we have plans confirmed. 5th Grade will go to STARBASE again this year while 6th Grade is on their end of year trip.

## **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR PLAN**

### **\*Individual\***

At this age students should really understand what is expected of them and that there are natural consequences for misbehavior. If the behavior is minor I will give verbal warnings first and make sure expectations are clear. If the behaviors continue then the student may have to miss recess, write sentences, etc. If the behavior continues after those steps have been completed then they will be sent to the principal's office and/or I may contact you by phone to discuss what's going on. We will be using classroom rewards this year as motivation in class. The students can earn prizes, passes, and other rewards.

### **\*Group\***

We will be using Poms as a whole class behavior reward plan. There are two buckets, one has poms in it, and one is the reward bucket. When the class as a whole is doing what they should, without being asked, they will earn a pom for the bucket. In the same way if the class as a whole is not, they can lose poms out of the bucket. When the reward bucket is full of Poms they earn a class party, such as popcorn party, sucker party, popsicle party, movie party, etc. This encourages them to work together as a team and encourage each other to do what is right.

**HISTORY/SCIENCE-** There is a lot of content to fit in so we will be moving at a fair pace. In order to finish the curriculum I wanted to let you know that if your child comes home with a workbook and some pages are empty that does not mean we skipped them. I have plans to do some of them outloud together on the board instead of all worksheets since there are so many of them provided to choose from for each of the chapter's material. I will give opportunities for bonus in both subjects if they choose to write chapter vocabulary and definitions on index cards and turn them in the day before we test. This bonus will be added to their test grade so it can be very beneficial.

**READING-** We have changed our teaching format a little bit this year and we will be utilizing Novel Studies as our main tool. I will still be covering all the main reading elements and material needed and supplementing when useful. As in the past the students will be required to read a certain number of pages each month September through April as part of their grade. I will send a separate note/form home for that when it begins. We will be preparing some fun book reports this year to really allow students to be creative and work on speaking/presenting skills too.

**SPELLING-** The workbooks will be sent home everyday so they have their list to study except the day before the test they will turn them in to be graded. You may find it helpful to take a pic of the list each week so you always have it to study. We will have some class time for spelling workbooks and other spelling assignments but they will need to finish it at home.