**Enfield Middle S.T.E.A.M. Academy**

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**7th Grade English Language Arts**

Welcome to your 2020/21 English Language Arts Class!

**Course Description:** Seventh Grade English/Language Arts (ELA) focuses on both reading and writing. Various forms of literature and informational text are explored to help students understand the various genres of writing. Students will keep a writing portfolio for ongoing work and will produce various pieces of writing. Close reading for understanding of complex texts is practiced. Students will produce several artifacts using various media including PowerPoint, posters, and brochures.

In an effort to continue familiarizing you with the new common core standards for language arts this year adopted by at least forty-three of the fifty states, classroom instruction will continue to vary from the past traditional methods. If you have internet access, you may view these standards at: [**https://tinyurl.com/what2learn7th**](https://tinyurl.com/what2learn7th)

**If you choose to break a rule:**

**1.** **First time:** Verbal warning

**2.** **Second time:** Contact parent/guardian

**3.** **Third time:** Student/Parent/Teacher (team) conference

**4.** **Fourth time:** Office Referral

**Classroom Procedures/Expectations**

1. Starting August 17, 2020 you will be required to bring all of the following to class: Flash Drive, 5 subject Notebook, Pencils/Pens (blue/black ink), and Highlighters (3 different colors).

 2. Upon entering the classroom, you are to complete the Do Now unless it is given to you at the door upon entering. Come into the classroom, have a seat in your assigned seat, and begin the assigned task with your mouth closed. Once you have completed the Do Now, you are to read silently at your seat until the teacher is ready to present the daily lesson.

3. Cellphones are not permitted in class. The first time a student is caught with a cellphone out for any reason, I will ask the student to put the cellphone away. If the student is caught with a cellphone the second time, the teacher will confiscate the cellphone and hold onto the cellphone until the end of class. The third time a student is caught with a cellphone out for any reason, the teacher will then confiscate the phone and hold onto the it until the end of the school day at 3:30 p.m. A parent will be contacted in regards to this matter. If a cellphone is confiscated from a student for a fourth time for any reason, the student must turn the cellphone in to the teacher and the teacher will then turn the phone into the principal.

* Please remind your child that if I ask for the cellphone because the student did not follow the cellphone policy, to please be respectful and hand over the cellphone without commentary (any verbal language) or an attitude. If the student would like to discuss the matter, they must follow the rules as outlined and then **politely** ask if he/she may speak to the teacher at an appropriate time concerning this matter.

 4. When you are absent, YOU are responsible for all work that was missed.

* Any work that you miss due to an absence will be found in the assignment section (online). If for any reason you see or have a problem, you must see me for help or answers. I cannot read your mind so you must find me.
* If a presentation was done, you must ask for notes from a peer and if online (check the assignment section). You may also ask for a print out of the slideshow, if available.
* Tests and quizzes not made up within a week due to an absence will be given a “0.”

5. Students will only be allowed **two bathroom** privileges **per nine weeks** in my classroom. **A pass** must be used in order to utilize the restroom. Students are highly encouraged to use the restroom during the change of classes. **Please be mindful of the tardy policy.**

 6. The bell reminds the teacher that you have other classes to attend. It is not a sign for you to leave the room before you are dismissed. **The bell does not dismiss you….I do!!!**

**Possible Fiction and Nonfiction for Class Study**

**-Crash -The Skin I’m In**

**-Freak the Mighty -Scorpions**

**-The Pigman -Dear Martin**

**-The Outsiders -Malcom X**

**-Monday’s Not Coming -Slam**

**Grading Policy**

You will be receiving grades based on the following categories and percentages:

**Homework (**assigned daily/weekly)/ **Reading Requirement/Book Report Assignments: 10%**

**Classwork/Free Writings: 30%**

**Quizzes (**announced and unannounced)**: 15%**

**Projects/Major Test: 35%**

**Participation: 10**%

 **Important Grading Policy Notes:**

**\*\*Extra credit is not an option and will not be considered!!! I will do whatever possible to help make this a successful year for you, but ultimately, the choice and decision to succeed is up to YOU!!\*\***

**Grading Scale:**

**A=** 90-100%

**B=** 80-89%

**C=** 70-79%

**D=** 60-69%

**Below 60%=** Find me quick!!

**Teacher Contact Information**

**E-mail**: cherryd@en.halifax.k12.nc.us

**School Phone**: (252) 445-5405

*There is no “them and us.” In a world of size, there can only be “we”—all of us working together- Don Ward*