



6th Grade Rocks

Welcome

Dear Parents and Students,

During Trimester 1 we held conferences and heard feedback from both parents and students that our website was confusing. We heard your requests and wanted to adjust to meet the needs of our scholars.

We hope this workshop is helpful to you and welcome back.

~ 6th Grade Team ~

Workshop Agenda

1. New Website- Format
2. How 6th Grade uses Google Classroom
3. PowerSchool Grade Book Information
4. Late Work Policy
5. Rotation Cycles and Homework Policy
6. STEAM and other donations to 6th Grade
7. Questions?
8. Holly- Donut Challenge and E2 Baskets

Website Format

New Format:

- A simple homepage that will link you to:
 - Upcoming events, CIMI information, Donations and Contacting the Teachers
- All four subject matter tabs are formatted the same with:
 - Pacing Plan at the top- *dates subject to change
 - 6 columns for: Classwork, homework, test dates, vocabulary and 2 "Other" tabs
 - A sub page for PDFs and handouts

Website Format

New Format:

- An announcement page with general 6th grade announcements and 3 sub pages for:
 - Upcoming events, CIMI information, and Donations
- A Contact Page where you can email all 4 teachers

Google Classroom and Mrs. Spaccia

Google Classroom is ONLY used in 6th grade as a secondary source for information. The 6th Grade website the Primary Source to find homework and class assignments. In 6th Grade, Google Classroom is ONLY used as a place to turn in assignments that are done electronically like a slide show for example.

Google Classroom and Social Studies:

- Students turn in their vocabulary slide assignments here
- Students turn in Google document assignments here

Google Classroom and Mrs. Spaccia's Homeroom STEAM:

- Students turn in Google document assignments here created for STEAM Projects to help create a portfolio of work
- STEAM is an UNGRADED time to explore concepts

Google Classroom and Mrs. Kennedy

Google Classroom is ONLY used in 6th grade as a secondary source for information. The 6th Grade website the Primary Source to find homework and class assignments. In 6th Grade, Google Classroom is ONLY used as a place to turn in assignments that are done electronically like a slide show for example.

Google Classroom and Math: I post work that needs to be completed and instructional slide shows for the steam posters.

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Google Classroom and Homeroom Art:

- There are instructional videos and assignments for the students to complete in class on Tuesdays and Thursdays after PE and World Language classes.

PowerSchool Grades

PowerSchool Gradebook update:

- All 4 teachers were using an updated version of PowerSchool during trimester 1
- Mr. Cusack placed a temporary hold on our grading after trimester 1 ended to decide whether or not 6th Grade teachers should use the updated gradebook or the old gradebook- this is why you have not seen any grades!
- Mr. Cusack decided on Wednesday, November 16th to have us use the old gradebook
- All 4 teachers have at least 400 assignments to grade right now and are in the process of catching up and entering grades- we appreciate your patience

Late Work Policy

Late Work Policy and PowerSchool Gradebook:

- We heard parent feedback about missing assignments and late work notifications
- All 4 teachers do not have a schedule for inputting in grades. We input our grades as time allows.
- We understand that this may be difficult for busy parents to check PowerSchool, but PowerSchool does have alert systems where you can receive text messages when new assignments are added and when students are missing assignments.

Late Work Policy

Late Work Policy and PowerSchool Gradebook:

- We all need to work together to help ensure every child is on target with his or her work. Here is what we suggest to accomplish this (IN this ORDER):

Parent and Student Responsibility to Check Work:

1. Always check the website first to see what assignments are due and when.
2. Both STUDENTS and Parents should check PowerSchool at least once per week for grades, assignment scores AND MISSING ASSIGNMENTS!

Late Work Policy

Late Work Policy and PowerSchool Gradebook:

Teacher Responsibility to Parents and Students:

1. We will try to enter assignments as we collect them in a timely manner but please note that during the school day, we are actively instructing and teaching your children. During our prep time in World Languages and PE we often have meetings and have to work on planning and prepping for 6th grade which rarely- if ever- allows us to grade at that time.
2. Grading assignments often happens in the morning before school, in the afternoon or evening and on weekends.
3. To help parents with this, the 6th grade team has reflected and changed the late work policy as we realize that the day we collect an assignment may not be the day grades are entered into PowerSchool.

New Late Work Policy

Late Work Policy and PowerSchool Gradebook:

Once an assignment is graded and the score is in PowerSchool, students have 4 days from the entering of grades to turn in an assignment.

Please check PowerSchool at least once per week.

For each day it is late, we will still deduct 10% off each day, but after 4 days, we will no longer accept an assignment.

Rotations

Normal week:

Monday	Rot.1- Spaccia	Rot. 2-Kennedy	Intervention
Tuesday	PE/WL	Rot. 3-Reano	Rot. 4-Cabitac
Wednesday	Rot. 1-Spaccia	Rot. 2-Kennedy	Intervention
Thursday	PE/WL	Rot. 3-Reano	Rot. 4-Cabitac
Friday	PE/WL	Intervention	STEAM

Next STEAM Project and Other Donations



Next STEAM Project:

Students learn how the aerodynamics and rolling resistance of a car affect its energy efficiency through designing and constructing model cars out of simple materials. As the little cars are raced down a tilted track (powered by gravity) and propelled off a ramp, students come to understand the need to maximize the energy efficiency of their cars. The most energy-efficient cars roll down the track the fastest and the most aerodynamic cars jump the farthest. Students also work with variables and plot how a car's speed changes with the track angle.

Other Donations:

General Classroom Supply Needs Sign Up:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f44aba922a0fd0-6thgrade1>

Supplies Needed

Each group needs:

- 5 Popsicle® / hobby sticks
- masking tape, ~24 inches
- 4 Lifesavers® mint candies (Tip: Use the mint-flavored candies because they do not get as sticky as the fruit-flavored ones.)
- 3 drinking straws (small enough diameter to fit inside the mint candy holes)

To share with the entire class:

- scissors
- rain gutter section(s), ~7 ft in length
- duct tape (or other heavy duty tape)
- cardboard boxes for ramp
- electric fan
- stopwatch (if racing only one car at a time)

PRESENTATION FINISHED

ANY QUESTIONS?