

Dear Sixth Grade Families,

Welcome to sixth grade! I am so glad to have you in my class this year. As leaders of this school, we will build skills and strategies that will serve well into middle school and beyond. I am so fortunate to have gotten to work with you this past year. I have personally enjoyed getting to know each one of your writing voices. I love our group of spirited and creative thinkers!

Some things to know about me are that **I enjoy hands-on projects, experiments and learning through a variety of activities.** However, I am old-fashioned in that I value the connection between the brain and pencil in written work. We read and write much in this class. We also take notes and learn the value of revision and organization. I build foundations by breaking them down into manageable parts; reviewing is part of that process. Also, I love teaching sixth grade. I was blessed with a teacher who made it my favorite grade. I hope I can make it yours as well.

Here are *some* highlights:

Language Arts: We will review foundations of grammar, vocabulary and spelling to formulate the basis for written work. Upon this, we will create a **Writing Portfolio** that includes a variety of writing styles from narrative to persuasive, research-based essays. Paraphrasing will be a focus as we learn proper citation.

We will be reading novels this year with an eye on deeper moral connections and symbolism that underlie the text. Greater attention will be given to making inferences. As we do this, **we reflect upon Scripture in connection to each story.**

Science: We will be using the **Scientific Method** as we experiment and create models based on Earth and Life Science studies. Get ready to build a bridge, make a model home to withstand a tsunami and discover the forces of nature. We even fly kites! Miss McGregor will be taking our class further with Math skills.

Social Studies: We will take a **world view of history** from ancient civilizations to the Greeks, Romans and Early Church. We will explore kingdoms from Medieval Europe to the shores of the Americas. This all begins with geography and culminates with a World Food Festival.

Religion: We will come to know God's love through studying his Word in Holy Scripture, art and prayer. We will learn about the promises and covenants of the Old and New Testaments. We are already prayer warriors and intercessors and will continue to grow with our "daily decade" of the Rosary. We also take Scripture to **memory** so it becomes alive and part of our being. **Our first will be John 1:1.**

Enjoy a restful summer and time with family!

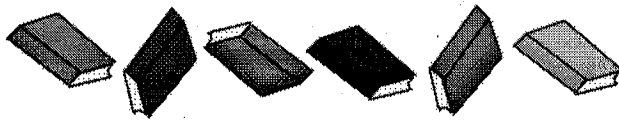
We have a great year ahead!

God bless,



Mrs. Lester

I have attached the summer reading assignment. My email is: [lestera@stfrancisschoolnh.org](mailto:lestera@stfrancisschoolnh.org)



### **File Folder Book Report**

Book reports are a great way to celebrate an enjoyable read. Think about a book that you want to read over the summer. Once you have read your book, you will make a file folder presentation that will highlight the best parts of the book. Your assignment will include a book preview, 5 things you liked best about the book, a review of what you thought of the book and your choice of something extra that represents your story. You could make a diorama, sculpture, poem or a drawing. The choice is up to you!

Your presentation will be shared with your classmates when you return to school. Who knows . . . you might just help someone find a new favorite book!

Creativity is encouraged! Decorate your file folders to make them stand out!

I can't wait to see what you have created!

#### **Your file folder must contain:**

\_\_\_ The title of your book and author's name on the front with an illustration that represents your favorite part of the book.

\_\_\_ An interesting book preview on the inside of the folder. Think of it like a movie preview, give some details but don't give away the ending.

\_\_\_ Five parts of the book that you love. It can be settings, characters you like, things like that. Get creative!

\_\_\_ Create a review of the book you read. Pretend you're a critic and tell me about your favorite or not so favorite parts of the story.

\_\_\_ Come up with your own "extra" that represents your book in some way. It can be a song, drawing, painting, or whatever creation that you can come up with!

Don't forget to make your file folder stand out.

Neatness counts so make sure your handwriting is your best.

Have fun!