

August 24, 2009

Dear Sixth Grade Parents,

Welcome to the 2009/2010 school year! I will be working with your child in religion and language arts. Below is some information I would like to share with you on the sixth grade curriculum and what will be expected of your child in my classes.

\* In religion, we will journey together toward a deeper understanding of our religious beliefs and traditions. The sixth graders will be learning more about the Bible, especially the Old Testament. We will share many interesting stories about what occurred before Jesus was born. Daily participation is extremely important! My ultimate goal is to help your child become confident in the knowledge that Christ is their friend and gain a deeper relationship with the Lord.

\* In language arts, your child will learn different reading strategies to aide in increasing their comprehension. The students will work on expanding their vocabulary and spelling. They will be reading a variety of different literature as well as novels.

\* The students will be required to do some outside reading. This will be approximately one book a month. Your child will be given written information on the various projects they are expected to complete.

\* In English, the sixth graders will be taught proper grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students will be exposed to a variety of poetry and writing styles. I will put together a writing portfolio of your child's work, which will be sent home at the end of the year.

\* Your child will be taught the basic elements of how to write a research paper. Some of this will include proper note taking, writing a bibliography (works cited), and developing an outline. This should help the students when they write their research paper for the Science Fair.

\* Daily homework is usually given in language arts. The students' homework that is assigned is to be completed neatly and turned in on time. Please encourage your child to be responsible and have all necessary materials for school every day. They are expected to review their notes given in class, on a daily basis for all subjects.

Tests and quizzes will be announced ahead of time. Grades will derive from notes, written assignments, homework, class participation, tests, quizzes , and a variety of class projects.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached through our school office or my e-mail address: [finucan@stmarkwestpark.com](mailto:finucan@stmarkwestpark.com). I am really looking forward to a wonderful school year with your child.

Mrs. Tracey Finucan