



## **2010-2011 Mrs. Werner Room 15**

### **7<sup>h</sup> Reading 7<sup>th</sup> Religion 8<sup>th</sup> Reading**

7<sup>th</sup> Reading: 7<sup>th</sup> grade focuses on skills such as prereading, connecting, recalling, summarizing, and visualization. Literary elements are introduced as well as figurative language. Spelling is part of the reading curriculum. The spelling units are not taken in order; vocabulary units are generated from our reading and included in our reading binder.

7<sup>th</sup> graders have a book report about every five - six weeks. These due dates are posted in the room and in their book report folders.

Many students express that they do not like reading. I believe they feel this way, in part, because they do not make a connection between themselves and text being read. Also, students seem to have a harder time visualizing what is in print. HEARING text aloud allows the human voice to give more meaning to what is read. I do read aloud often in class. You can help students by listening to them read when they are having difficulty or reading with them aloud.

Please ask to see your child's reading binder from time to time.

7<sup>th</sup> graders will take both the IOWA and OAT tests in the spring. We will do some practices during the school year. The OAT requires written responses and I will be helping the students learn how to format these written responses so they feel more comfortable during the testing.

7<sup>th</sup> Religion: We will be studying the life and teachings of Jesus and applying these to our own actions. 7<sup>th</sup> graders must complete "service records" in the first two quarters. This service is to be done in their own homes or in their neighborhoods.

8<sup>th</sup> Reading: I tell the students that we are covering “literature” rather than reading. While we do work on “skills”, our focus is literary elements and “thinking” skills. 8<sup>th</sup> graders may have projects to complete rather than tests for some of the works we cover together. We read a wide variety of genre and students study authors’ styles. We do much writing in response to literature.

It is important for 8<sup>th</sup> graders to carefully maintain their reading binders. Please ask to see your child’s reading binder. Also, vocabulary is of great importance in this class.

8<sup>th</sup> graders have one book report about every six weeks. Due dates are posted in the room and in their book report folders.

8<sup>th</sup> graders will take the reading OAT in the spring this year.

I feel a strong commitment to prepare your sons and daughters for high school English classes and to provide them with knowledge of good authors and good writing.

Grading: All material (homework, signatures, quizzes, entry work) is graded and included in student averages. Students receive grades on a wide variety of material each quarter which allows me to better evaluate their skills, strengths, and weaknesses.

Homework is a very important part of my classes and reflects student understanding and work ethic.

Behavior: I treat all students with respect and want them to show this same respect to me and to others. Maturity is shown when students work at their personal best, seek help when needed, and recognize they have goals to reach each day.

My two biggest rules are: Do not interrupt teaching.  
Do homework.

Conferences/Contact: Please feel free to call the office if you wish to speak with me. I am available for extra help for students; help is available after school or before school after a parent conference.