

**Welcome to Sixth Grade!**

Mrs. Brawley- Language Arts/Literature

Dear Parents/Guardians,

 It is truly an honor and privilege to welcome your child to sixth grade at Boulder Creek! I believe that a successful learning experience is built on a cooperative effort between the student, the family, and the teacher. I am exciting to join together to make this school year a dynamic and fun-filled one for all my students. My passion is teaching each child to discover the potential that lies within them. Therefore, my goal is that each one of my students feels successful and proud of everything they want to accomplish. Thank you in advance for all of your support, encouragement, and help at home to provide this positive learning experience for your child.

**Curriculum**:

This letter is to inform you about how this year will look in sixth grade. First of all, the sixth grade team of teachers have been working hard to provide your students with the most adequate curriculum. I will be providing your child with curriculum in **language arts and literature.**

 The primary focus in **Language Arts** will be on writing, grammar, punctuation, vocabulary, and spelling which are also essential components to your child’s expressive writing skills. They will be strongly emphasized. **Spelling** and **vocabulary** will be taught through weekly assignments. These assignments will be introduced in class and reviewed on a daily basis. Each vocabulary test will build on the previous list. I will choose several previous words along with the new words.  **Daily** **Grammar** and punctuation will be taught through a series of warm-up activities. Students will integrate these activities into other areas of study. Each warm-up is introduced and corrected in class for clarity. Additional practice exercises may be sent home as homework. For **Writing** students will receive writing assignments and reinforcement activities both in class and for homework. Writing is a shared practice; therefore, students are encouraged to share their assignments with you. The students are also given three district writing assessments throughout the school year to ensure that they are meeting the writing standards for sixth grade. **Expect your child to have homework daily in these subject areas**.

Furthermore, **literature** will be a class that will focus on enhancing your child’s interests and skills in reading. Students will read novels, short stories, and articles. This year in Literature, students will be required to accumulate **Accelerated Reader** points. Each **Trimester** students will be given an individual point goal, **according to their reading level,** to accomplish by the end of the trimester. With each book they read, they will be **required to log** their time they have read at home, take an AR test (passing score of 80% or higher), and print a log of quizzes. At the end of each month, **your signature** is required to verify they have been reading at home. Before the points are due, each student will be required to **print off a log** of all their AR quizzes taken during the trimester and staple to each **monthly reading log** they filled out for the books read. Daily reading at home is extremely valuable; therefore, please stay current with your child by monitoring and engaging them in discussions related to his/her reading.

Finally**,** the students will be responsible to know **101 LA facts** throughout the school year. We will begin with **10 facts** every **two weeks** and increase this number as the year goes on. The students will be quizzed **every other Friday**, along with Daily Grammar, on these facts. If they do not pass the quiz, they will be responsible to **write out each term** and definition **5 times each**. **Please review** these terms **daily** with your child to ensure they are prepared for each quiz. They can also use the website, **Quizlet** to study these terms nightly. The link to Quizlet is found on my class website listed below.

**Important Websites:**

To **view important announcements and current homework assignments** please visit my class website:

**www.bouldercreekbrawley.weebly.com**

To **view current grades** please visit: **sis.enterprise.k12.ca.us/public**

Enter specific username and password assigned to each student from the District Office.

**Homework**:

The amount of time each child spends on homework will depend on class effort/use of time, personal ability, and quality of effort. Thirty to forty-five minutes each night (not including thirty minutes of independent reading and special projects) is expected.

**Assignments not turned in on the due date will be considered late and will not receive full credit**. All late assignments will be reduced to 70% if turned in by the end of the progress report period. Late assignments turned in after the progress report period ends, will receive zero credit. Assignments will receive a **re-do** and will be given full credit **AFTER** a student has made corrections to an already completed assignment that was ready on the date the assignments was due. All **incomplete** and **re-do** papers are issued a “0” score until they have been corrected/completed and turned in to the late box. **Completing work** is very **important** in the success of each of my students, and I will **stress** the importance of this throughout the school year. I believe that **parents** need to know immediately if their child is not completing homework on time and each student should be held **responsible** if an assignment is not complete. Please make sure to check the grade website to ensure your child’s work is being completed and turned in on time.

Students are expected to write homework and class assignments in their planners daily. **Please check your child’s planner and the website nightly for a list of homework and class assignments.**

Please look for the following **routine weekly assignments**:

**Monday=** A.R. reading for at least 30 minutes

 Vocabulary sentences (**due Tuesday**)/study words

Spelling pre-test (in class) Spelling alphabetical order and lesson (**due Wednesday**)/study words

 Review/ Finish any grammar, literature, 101 Facts

 Study Daily Grammar/101 Facts (**quiz every other Friday**)

**Tuesday=** A.R. reading for at least 30 minutes

 Vocabulary sentences **due**/study words

 Spelling Alphabetical order and lesson (**due Wednesday**)/study words

Review/ Finish any grammar, literature, 101 Facts

Study Daily Grammar/101 Facts

**Wednesday=** A.R. reading for at least 30 minutes

 Study Vocabulary words (**quiz Thursday**)

 Spelling **due**/ study words (**quiz Thursday**)

 Review/ Finish any grammar, literature, 101 Facts

Study Daily Grammar/101 Facts

**Thursday=** A.R. reading for at least 30 minutes

 Vocabulary **quiz** (in class)

Spelling **quiz** (in class)

 Review/ Finish any grammar, literature, 101 Facts

Study Daily Grammar/101 Facts

**Friday=** A.R. reading for at least 30 minutes

 Daily Grammar/101 Facts **quiz** every other Friday

**Absences:**

Students who are absent will have the number of days absent to make up missed assignments (absent 1 day equals 1 day to make up assignments). Missing assignments, due to absences, will not result in a late grade unless it is turned in after the given time.

 **I highly encourage students to use the classroom website to view current assignments. Please print off any worksheets provided for the days absent and complete.**

**Grading Policy:**

 This is the first year students will receive academic letter grades. Grades are posted on our district's grading program, PowerGrade, at least once per week and can be viewed 24 hours per day.  In addition, progress reports will be sent home every three weeks.  They are to be signed and returned the following school day**.** In order to save paper, just the current grade for each class will be listed; any specifics regarding the grade given will require you reviewing the grades and assignments online. **If your child does not return the signed progress report on time, you will receive a phone call**.

**Student’s grades will be based on a percentage system as stated below**.

A+ = 100% B+= 88-89% C+ = 78-79% D+ = 68-69%

A = 94-99% B = 84-87% C = 74-77% D = 64-67%

**Mrs. Brawley’s Grade Check Slip**

I checked my child’s current grades on-line on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature Date

A- = 90-93% B- = 80-83% C- = 70-73% D- = 60-63%

 F = 0-59

**Language Arts                                           Literature** Homework/Classwork   40%                       Homework/Classwork  30%
Test and Quizzes         40%                       Test and Quizzes         30%
 Portfolio Checks       20%                        Portfolio Checks          20%
                                                                     AR                               20%

**Classroom Materials**:

 In addition to the regular curriculum, organization and responsibility will be emphasized in the sixth grade. A **3-ring binder** will become your child’s most valuable school supply. Old-fashioned binders (minimum 2 inches) with 3 rings work best; Trapper Keepers and Data Organizers **do not work well**. Please try and have your binder by **Friday, August 19th** so we can begin organizing assignments in class. Other needed school supplies include: college ruled paper, #2 pencils, highlighter markers (blue, green, yellow, pink), a pencil sharpener, an eraser, colored pencils, ruler, scissors, and fine-point black felt pen, 500 index cards, or preferably ones that come with the rings or in a case/folder **already**. **Highlighter markers will be used daily in class in a variety of ways to increase writing and comprehension skills. All four highlighter colors are needed**. Your child should have their **AR** book with them in class daily.

I hope to see you at Back to School Night on **Thursday, September 1st from 7:15-8:15**. Valuable information pertaining to your child’s education including homework, reading logs, classroom binders, and assignments will be reviewed. Please bring any questions you may have.

Again, I look forward to a great year. If you have any questions or concerns, don’t hesitate to call or e-mail. I am confident that with your help and the team here at Boulder Creek your child will grow, discover, and be challenged to reach success in their educational journey in Jr. High! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to empower your children to reach success in 6th grade!

 Sincerely,

![C:\Documents and Settings\nbrawley\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\C9EKYK5O\MC900052766[1].wmf]()

 Mrs. Nicole Brawley

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**“There isn't a person anywhere who isn't capable of doing more than he thinks he can**.” ~ ***Henry Ford***

**Contact Information**:

Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Parents Signature Student Signature

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 Date

Please return **this page only** of this syllabus by **Monday, August 22nd** indicating that you have read and discussed the syllabus that will be in effect throughout the school year in Mrs. Brawley’s classroom. Thank you!