



Mountain Oak School

Eighth Grade 2014-2015

Dear Parents and Students of the 8th Grade Class,

I write this letter as I am preparing to spend a relaxing summer in Prescott. I have so much reading to catch up on! By the time you receive this, I hope to have already planned the lessons for this coming school year, a year filled with many academic and artistic learning opportunities.

Eighth grade is a time when students may experience many emotional ups and downs. Our study of the French and Industrial Revolutions provide the students with an outer reflection of their inner struggles. Our study in math and science, such as Chemistry, Anatomy, and Meteorology will help them to develop objectivity. The arts offer them an opportunity to express their feelings. In addition, we will learn about the geography of Asia, platonic solids, and how to write a short story. We will read...a lot, and work on strengthening the content, mechanics and punctuation of our writing, as well as improve our ability to edit our own writing.

In order to be successful in class, students must come prepared to meet the academic challenges they will face. Their attitude toward learning is one important way they can be ready for the year. Another is having the necessary tools at hand to help them stay organized and to stay on top of all assignments. The supplies list includes a student planner for this purpose. They can use this planner to keep track of events, assignments and due dates.

The first day of school is **Tuesday, August 12th**. I would like to start off the year with an opportunity to meet and visit with each other before the school year begins. I would like to have a class picnic on **Sunday, August 10th from 4-6 pm**, outside under the "gathering tree". Please bring your own picnic and I will provide things to play with. I will also invite all the specialty teachers your child may see throughout the year and our director. It will be nice to start the year off with a relaxing, social event.

Our first parent meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 3 from 5:15-6:45 pm**. We'll begin with a tasty dessert and introductions followed by class business. We'll even have some fun and enjoy a little artistic activity! I will also provide plates, napkins and plastic ware. We'll meet in the eighth grade classroom. It's imperative every student have a parent representative. There will be much to discuss as this class begins their final elementary school year.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. I hope you have had or will have many relaxing, lazy summer days. See you on August 10th!

Blessings,

Marlene Sullivan

8th Grade Supplies List

2014-2015 School Year

Student Supplies (required)

- 1 – student planner
- 1 – box of colored pencils for home use
- 1 – ruler (12-18" with inch and centimeter measurements)
- 1 – year supply of #2 Dixon Ticonderoga pencils (If you get mechanical pencils, try to purchase a better quality one as students spend a lot of time trying to get them to work well.)
- 1 – 3-ring binder (solid color, 1 ½" or 2" wide)
- 2 – packets of lined paper (college-ruled)
- 5 – pocket folders without the 3-ring center (1 each of yellow, purple, orange, red, blue)
- 1 – pocket folder of your choice for homework or bringing work home
- 6 – black or blue pens
- 8 – notebook dividers with wide tabs (can get the tabs with inserts or write on, your choice)
- 1 – reusable water bottle with your students name on it

Student Supplies (strongly suggested)

- 1 – **good** pencil sharpener that holds shavings (Maped brand is supposed to work well, at Target)
- 1 – pink pearl or white eraser
- 1 – pair of athletic shoes that tie for movement class
- 1 - bottle of sunscreen
- 1 – hat for sunny days
- 1 – lock for the locker
- 1 – small container to hold desk supplies

Classroom Supplies (optional but necessary to make the year a little easier)

- 2 – Boxes of tissue
- 1 – ream of copy paper
- 1 – large container of wipes

- 1* – box of band aids (8th graders seem to get a lot of booboo's ☺)
- 1* – bag of cough drops (Ricola or other natural brand preferred)

*Perhaps students with last names A-H could get band aids and I-Z could get cough drops?

- This list may not be everything students will need to have for this year. I have various projects and activities in mind that may require some additional tools or supplies.