Information Items Specific To Grade 6

Grade 6 is a transition year which prepares students for the rigors of the Intermediate division which begins in grade 7. For this reason, it is important to recognize that students will be expected to take on greater independent responsibilities in completing their work and making themselves aware of upcoming due dates.

School Supplies

In grade 6, students will be expected to provide some of their own supplies for the classroom. The grade 6 team has requested that students come prepared with the following items:
- pencils
- a glue stick
- a ruler with both millimetre and centimetre units
- a half inch, 3 ringed soft cover binder (for science and social studies)
- a small pencil case
- 4 duotangs
- a highlighter pen
- a good quality eraser
- a protractor
- an eraser
- indoor shoes and clothing for gym

As many of you know, we will be residing in a portable this year. Students will not have a locker and desk space is limited. Therefore, we ask that students not bring additional binders. Students will be provided with notebooks in class for the remainder of their homeroom subjects.

The V.I.P Program

The Values, Influences and Peers program is designed to educate our students as young adolescents towards making informed personal decisions. The program is run in conjunction with the York Regional Police Department. In addition to classroom teachings, a York Regional police officer will be discussing such issues as youth and the law, vandalism, peer pressure, recognizing inappropriate situations, and the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Part of the program involves student use of a journal which contains these and other topics.
Physical Education Expectation

In grade 6, it is expected that students will change their shoes and clothing for our physical education classes. Gym clothing should be brought home for wash each day as well. An important topic of study in our health unit involves discussion of puberty and dealing with the associated physical changes in the body. A detailed consent letter describing this unit will be sent home when we begin this topic.

E.Q.A.O. Training

As you may know, grade 6 is an EQAO testing year. Our testing will typically take place in May. We ask that you avoid scheduling any vacations or medical appointments during that time. The EQAO is designed as an assessment piece to give our school feedback on the achievement levels of our students for a particular year. A detailed parental handbook will be sent home prior to the testing. If you have any questions before then, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Science and Social Studies Strands

Our Science and Social Studies topics will be alternated during the year. In term one we will explore the properties of air and the characteristics of flight in science. We will then switch to Social Studies and learn about Canada’s heritage and citizenship. Term two will begin with space and electricity as science topics; we will then switch over to Social Studies to explore facts and concepts about Canada and its trading partners. In term three, we finish up our social studies units, and our main science topics become the diversity of living things and motion. We feel that alternating science and social studies in this way allows for a more thorough learning experience as greater detail can be explored within each subject.

Monthly Book Reports

In grade 6, students will be assigned monthly book report topics. The topics assigned will be alternated with our other grade six classes. This helps to ensure that our school library will have enough books of the assigned theme for each class to complete their reports. The monthly book reports are expected to be completed independently and must be done entirely at home. This assignment is meant to complement the regular homework which will be assigned. The monthly book report becomes a source for your child’s nightly reading and skill development towards independent task completion.
Homework Location and Time Routines

In grade six, students may receive and are expected to complete up to one hour of homework each night in addition to 30 minutes of reading. Please recognize the importance of creating a structured homework environment for your child at home. Homework should routinely be done at a specific time, (immediately after school, or before dinner) and in a specific location of the home. With this kind of structure in place, the chances of losing or forgetting homework will be minimized and your child will experience greater success in our school. If you feel that your child is experiencing difficulty, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Agenda Expectations

It is expected that all students will purchase and use our school agenda. The agenda has proven to be a valuable organizational aid for students. The agenda is to travel between home and school. It serves as a convenient location for notes and communication between student, parent, and teacher. Please take the time to read and sign the agenda on a daily basis. This will help keep you informed of the assignments and upcoming events in the class.