August 7, 2014



Dear Parent and/or Guardian,

Welcome to the Honors Academy of Literature! I am thrilled to be teaching your child this year in whatever class I might have them in. As a second year teacher here at the Honors Academy, I am excited to embark on this year’s journey. I hope that you and your child have a fantastic school year!

Here is some important information for you to have about classes that I teach this year:

**Philosophy of education:**

At the Honors Academy, we promote a model that encourages collaboration and communication with a hands-on approach to learning. Encouraging positive behaviors in the classroom and outside of the classroom will promote a positive school environment which is the mission of our school. We want your child to be a part of an enticing, safe, and fun learning environment where they are doing their best. Collaborating and working together to always work toward the best interest of your child is my priority.

**Grading:**

***Classwork:*** *20% (Core classes) -30% (Electives) of student grade*

I find it important that students participate in class and try their best. Because of this philosophy, depending on the class students will be graded on their participation and effort in the classroom.

***Homework:*** *40% (Electives)-50% (Core Classes) of student grade*

Students are coming to the age where keeping track of their work and learning strategies of how to be responsible is important. Homework is essential in working on key concepts taught in class and having an opportunity to refine skills outside of the classroom.

Homework is assigned on Monday of every week and due the following Monday or first day back to school if there is a holiday. Extra copies of the homework are always available in the classroom or on my website.

***Projects/Tests and Quizzes:*** *30% (Core Classes and Electives) of student grade*

Depending on the class, projects will be assigned as an assessment for understanding. In literacy classes, students will take a word study quiz every week based off their word sort. In math, students will take math tests at the end of every unit or present on the unit in project form. Projects will be a part of elective classes, there will not be tests or quizzes

**Contacting me**

Your child is extremely important to me. It is also important to me that we work together to provide the best educational experience possible for your child. If there are ever any questions or concerns regarding your child, please feel free to email me ms.katie@academyoflit.org. I am very interested in solving whatever issues may arise.

Information regarding weekly lesson plans and homework assignments can be found on my website at http://mskatiestewart.weebly.com/.

I am so excited to start the school year! I look forward to an exciting and fun filled year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Katie Stewart

Honors Academy of Literature

Level 5 Teacher/504 Coordinator

Ms.katie@academyoflit.org

http://mskatiestewart.weebly.com/.