**Welcome to 6th grade Language Arts!!**

**Teacher: Mrs. Shah**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 6th grade Language Arts. I am looking forward to an exciting year. It is my goal to provide you with an educationally challenging, yet fun, experience in my classroom. I want to share with you some of my classroom procedures and expectations, and I am asking that you share these with your family as well. I am thrilled to get to know you this year! If there is anything I need to know to help you have a successful year, please feel free to contact me through the email provided below.

**Course Overview**

6th grade Language Arts is an integrated curriculum that covers reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. We focus on the common core state standards for Grade 6 (more information on these standards can be found at <http://education.ohio.gov/>).

* *Reading*: We will use various forms of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.
* *Writing*: We will work primarily on *responding* to what has been read. We will do this in a variety of ways, including journaling and illustrations.
* *Speaking & listening*: We will work toward becoming more comfortable speaking to a group of people, whether the group be large (whole class) or small (peer conferencing). We will be working on listening skills as well, such as learning how to use constructive criticism to revise our work.
* *Language*: We will work to improve our vocabulary, as well as our grammar and punctuation.

**Contact Information**

Please feel free to contact me, whether to address any questions or concerns or just to share a moment in your child’s life. Email is the easiest way for me to connect with parents.

* Email: Shahp@westerville.k12.oh.us

**Class Website**

You will find quick updates on what we did each day. The website will also post any upcoming events, assignments, and due dates. I upload a few recurring handouts as well as some helpful links. To reach my website:

1. Go to [www.wcsoh.org](http://www.wcsoh.org)
2. Click on “Our Schools” → Middle Schools → Genoa → Staff Directory → Staff Websites → Shah, Pooja.

**Classroom Expectations**

In hopes of running the classroom as smoothly as possible, I ask all students to follow the following expectations:

* Enter quietly, take your seat, and get ready for class- this includes filling out your logbook and taking out materials for class.
* Follow directions
* Bring the appropriate supplies to class- ex: pencil, binder, etc.
* Raise your hand before speaking in class or to leave your seat
* Respect others property, space, and feelings- show respect to EVERYONE
* ALWAYS ask for help if you do not understand

**Homework**

Some type of homework assignment should be expected every week. Even if there is no written homework assignment, students are expected to read at least 10-20 minutes each night. Assignments will be posted on the board daily. These are the following expectations in regards to homework:

* Keep an accurate and up-to-date logbook
* Check my website for assignments
* Complete and turn in all homework assignments on time- completed to the best of your ability. Late assignments may earn partial to zero credit.

**Absent Work Policy**

Once returned from an absence, check the “Absent Binder” for any missing assignments. You are encouraged to ask a reliable friend to ask what you may have missed. Always ask the teacher for clarification if you have any sort of questions. You will have as many days as you were absent to make up missed work with an exception of long-term assignments.

**Language Arts Supply List**

In order to have a successful year in Language Arts, please make sure you have all of the following supplies:

* A binder (or section in a binder) or folder designated for language arts only
* Spiral Notebook
* Several No. 2 pencils
* Colored Pens
* Markers/colored pencils
* Highlighter
* Post-it Notes

\*\*Kleenex, hand sanitizer, Clorox/Lysol wipes and other classroom materials are always greatly appreciated, but are not mandatory ☺

**Important Dates:**

*Character Camp* (During the School Day) – September 14th- More information will coming soon.

*Student-led Conferences*- October 24th and 25th