

Mrs. Thomas

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PARENT
Packet

2021-2022

6

SIXTH
GRADE

welcome,

FAMILIES!

Dear Families,

September 1, 2021

Welcome back to a new school year! I am so happy to welcome you to our classroom! Sixth grade is a very busy year filled with lots of fun and exciting learning opportunities. I am very excited about what is in store for your child this year, and I look forward to working with you as well.

Attached in this packet, you will find information about our classes, our school day, schedules, expectations, and other information that may answer some of your questions about sixth grade.

I look forward to a fun-filled year with your child. I have many exciting things planned and can't wait to get started!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Thomas

6th Grade Daily Schedule

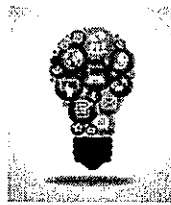
2021-2022

	Thomas	Leith	Wells
8:25-9:20 Friday: 9:05-9:45	Reading-Thomas Friday: Keyboarding 8:30-9	Math-Leith	English-Wells
9:25-10:20 Friday: 9:50-10:30	Reading-Leith	Math-Wells	English-Thomas
10:25 -11:20 Friday: 10:35-11:15	Reading-Wells	Math-Thomas	English-Leith
11:25-12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:04-12:42	Activity Period/MTSS	Activity Period/MTSS	Activity Period/MTSS
12:45-1:25	Science/Social Studies	Science/Social Studies	Science/Social Studies
1:30-1:50	Recess	Recess	Recess
1:55-2:25	Specials Wednesday: 1:55-2:40	Specials	Specials
2:30-3:00	SEL/Current Events/Class Meeting	Class Meeting	Class Meeting

Our Classroom Rule

If what you are doing

-INTERFERES with learning



-HURTS someone's heart 

OR

-PREVENTS you from being
your BEST SELF,



YOU SHOULDN'T BE DOING
IT.

What to **KNOW**

CLASS WEBSITE

We have a classroom website! Be sure to check it out at <https://cthomas50.wixsite.com/6thgrade>! Here you will find important dates and online resources for what we are doing in class! I do my best to keep it updated as often as possible.

ClassTag

I will use ClassTag to send any updates to parents/guardians of what we are doing in class, reminders of important upcoming events, share pictures, and communicate back and forth with family. This is not a behavior chart like many of you may be used to with ClassDojo. It is just a great way for us to communicate.

HOMEWORK POLICY

It has always been my attempt to rarely assign homework. I do my absolute best to make sure your student understands material before completing independent work. If your student doesn't understand something,, please encourage them to reach out to me. Your child should be able to do all of my work independently. I want you to have family time in the evenings after you get home, not stress. Encourage your child to read a book of their choice nightly (try for 20 minutes an evening or more). Eat dinner together, play games, or just relax as a family. As a parent and a teacher, I know how a homework fight can easily ruin a night!

As we are trying to get students ready for junior high school, there is a late policy that we follow. Homework is expected to be turned in the day it is due. If it is not turned in on this day, the student will have 5 days to turn in the assigned work before it turns to a zero. Students are reminded of missing assignments also, and you can keep track of your child's assignments in TeacherEase.

What to KNOW

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We love celebrating our classmates birthdays! Your student may bring treats that are individually wrapped if they choose to do so. You may also want to bring napkins!

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

We do not have classroom parties in sixth grade. We do celebrate the holidays (I am all about celebrations!) but do so without the need for room moms and volunteers. Being sixth graders, we attempt to get them ready for jr. high and try to celebrate in a more mature manner! We will watch holiday movies and have a more relaxing day! We do not exchange gifts at Christmas or Valentine cards.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please do not hesitate to email or call me at school with any questions you may have. I can be reached at my school email, cthomas@vg302.org, through ClassTag, or through the school at 217-832-2261, EXT 2647. During the day, I try to respond to messages as quickly as possible. However, I am teaching so if there is an urgent message that needs to get to your child, please contact the office. All emails or messages will be responded to within 24 hours on school attendance days. I would also be happy to set up an appointment to meet with you to discuss any concerns.

Math and English Please contact Mrs. Leith with any math questions you may have and Ms. Wells with any English questions! They will be happy to answer you!

curriculum **OVERVIEW** **READING**

In reading this year, we will be completing the 40 Book Challenge (note previously sent home to all parents/guardians). Using mentor texts for mini-lessons and our independent reading books, we will cover all of the reading standards. Some of our focuses in reading will include text structure, story elements, theme, citing textual evidence, and working on our reading fluency. Students will write Literature Letters weekly and conference with Mrs. Thomas about their reading also. My hope is to promote a love of reading for each student, as it plays one of the most important aspects in a child's education.



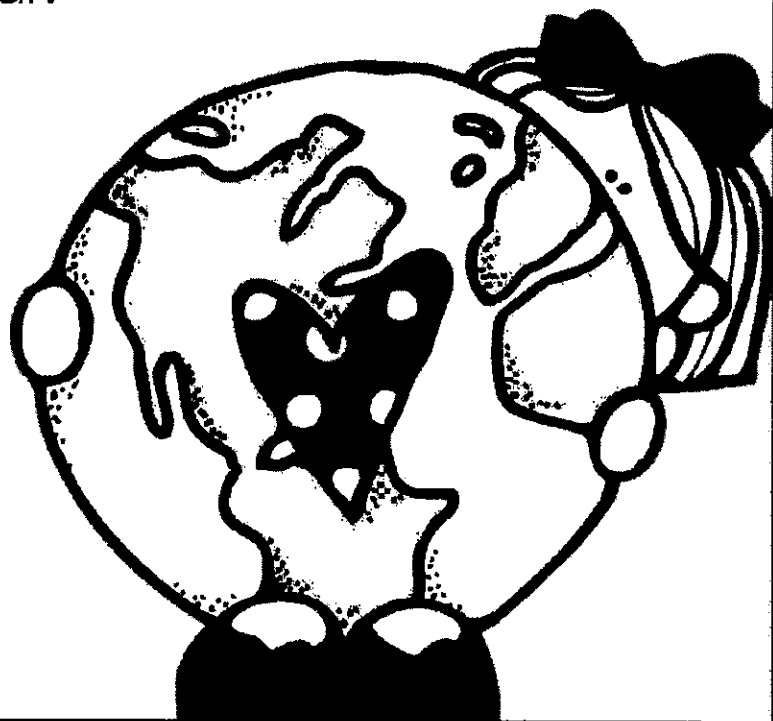
curriculum OVERVIEW

SOCIAL STUDIES

Our units we will cover this year:

- Industrial Revolution
- Immigration
- Great Depression
- World War I and II
- The Holocaust
- Civil Rights

We will cover a unit of social studies and then switch to a unit of science.



SCIENCE

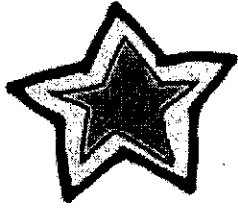
Units we will cover this year:

- Scientific Method
- Ecosystems
- Plate Tectonics
- Matter



THE STAR POLISHER

i have a great job in the universe of occupations.
what do i do?



i'm a "star polisher."



it's a very important job.

if you want to know how important,
just go out at night and look at the stars
twinkling and sparking.

you see, i'm a teacher, an educator, am mentor.
the stars are the children in my class.

my job is to take them in
whatever shape they come,
and shine and buff them



and then send them out
to take their places as bright twinkling beacons
in the sky.

they come into my room in all shapes and sizes.
sometimes they're bent, tarnished, dirty, crinkly, or broken.

some stars are cuddly and soft.

some are prickly and thorny,
as i buff and polish,

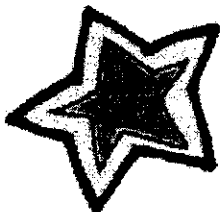
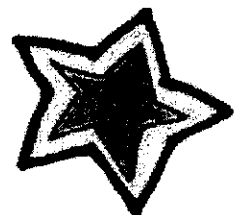
i train and teach my little stars;
i tell them that the world cannot do without them.

each night as i look at the sky,
i'm reminded of my very important job
and awesome responsibility.



then i get my soft buffing cloth
and my bottle of polish

in preparation for tomorrow
...for my class of little stars.



-teah becks

