Course Description:
Language Arts is a two-semester course required for all 6th grade students. This class will be broken into these major areas: reading, writing, speaking/listening, language and work habits. The personalized learning instruction and scoring for this class is based on the Thompson School District Performance Indicators. The performance indicators can be found at the following websites: https://www.thompsonschools.org/Domain/4009.

Major Instructional Goals:
Students will:
● Achieve 6th grade proficiency at reading or improve proficiency by at least one grade level.
● Develop and deliver oral presentations and participate in discussions using basic communication skills.
● Write informative and argumentative pieces that directly address a prompt and address common standards of writing.
● Cite textual evidence in writing.
● Write using proper grammar and mechanics, correct spelling and improve vocabulary.
● Demonstrate comprehension and close reading of multiple texts.
● Focus on personalizing learning through a variety of texts and modes of learning.

General Expectations:
During class, we expect students to be on time, prepared, respectful, and responsible.
Ms. Gilmore and Ms. Smith’s Philosophy on Reading encourages students to: 1) Read at school. 2) Read at home. 3) Read books they love and enjoy. 4) Challenge themselves to read from different genres. 5) Demonstrate comprehension of at least two pieces of literature.

Preparation for Class:
● Students begin each day by gathering necessary materials and writing in their agenda.
● Review learning target and success criteria for daily instruction.
● As part of the BRMS initiative to increase a student’s reading comprehension, students will be required to read and demonstrate their understanding of a piece of literature once a quarter in Literacy and/or Science. A variety of menu options will be provided to students as part of the Thompson School District’s initiative to personalized learning.

NOTE: Every day, students are required to bring an agenda, pencil, composition notebook, completed homework (when assigned), and a sustained silent reading book. Students will store all materials in an individual Literacy folder. The composition notebook and Literacy folder will remain in the respective teacher’s classroom.

Materials Needed for ELA:
● Pocket Folder
● Pencil
● Notebook
● Reading Book
● Agenda

Six Graduation Competencies:
1. Read closely to analyze and evaluate all forms of (i.e. complex literary and informational) texts.
2. Construct task-appropriate writing for diverse purposes and audiences.
3. Design and implement concise and sustained research tasks focused by questions and understandings of rigorous and relevant topics.
4. Collaborate and communicate effectively in a range of discussions, responding appropriately to diverse perspectives.
5. Communicate information, reasoning, and supporting evidence that conveys a clear and distinct perspective.
6. Employ the components of language (including conventions and word choice) effectively in written or spoken form.

Performance Indicator Scores:
Exceeding Expectations: (4)
Meeting Expectations: (3)
Progressing: (2)
Emerging: (1)