

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year! I will be your child's reading teacher this year. We will be utilizing the newly adopted Language! program during this school year. This is an exciting program and will benefit your child immensely. We will be focusing on the following academic areas:

- Strand 1: Reading Process
- Strand 2: Comprehending Literary Text
- Strand 3: Comprehending Informational Text

Tutoring and Cell Phones

Tutoring times are available for all students. Due to the number of meetings I attend, tutoring times will be posted weekly on the board. Cell phones are allowed on campus; however, they can not be seen or heard during class time or they will be taken.

Classroom Phone

I can be reached at 480-472-4698. I have fifth hour prep (1:45-2:40) and I can return calls during this time, as well as before or after school. My e-mail address is bmhickma@mpsaz.org.

Homework and Planners

Students are required to read 2 hours per week and record this information on their reading log. I check planners on a weekly basis and grades will be written in them on Friday. Up to 100 participation points will be given each quarter based on use of the planner, preparedness for class and class participation.

Grading Policy

Reading is a year long class. The class will include daily warm ups, Language! units, tests, and quizzes. Points will be converted to percentages and follow standard scale below.

- A = 100%-90%
- B = 89%-80%
- C = 79%-70%
- D = 69%-60%
- E = 59% and below

Late and Make-up work

All assignments are to be handed in on time for maximum credit. Every day that an assignment is late, 20% will be deducted from the grade. Parents should request make-up work from the counselor's office as soon as it is known that a student will miss at least two days of school. It is the student's responsibility to get make-up and missed work from the teacher.

Testing Policy

Tests are given at the end of each unit.

Classroom Rules and Expectations

1. Be on time and prepared for class
2. Treat everyone in the class with respect
3. Keep the classroom and desks clean.
4. No food, drinks, gum or cell phones in the classroom.
5. While in class, students are required to comply with all school and district policies as well as the rules in the student handbook.

Consequences

1. Student Conference (Optional detention)
2. Parental Contact (Optional Detention)
3. Parent Contact and Signed Detention Slip
4. Parent Contact
5. Administrative Involvement

Gum and Tardy

If the student is caught chewing gum or enters the classroom after the bell has rung, it is a 30 minute detention.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Beth Hickman

Please sign and return to me by Friday, September 5, 2008. By signing, it demonstrates you have read and understood my classroom expectations, consequences, and procedures.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date