



**Mrs. Walsh – Homeroom 6B**  
**[mrswalsh@stannenj.com](mailto:mrswalsh@stannenj.com)**

### **Class Rules for 6B**

1. **Be positive.** Keep your focus on accomplishing your goals, not on worrying about the obstacles in the way. Recognize and compliment your classmates' strengths and best attributes. And be kind to yourself....there is no such thing as a perfect human being. Forgive yourself when you make a mistake, and learn from it for the next time around.
2. **Be polite.** Your classmates, your teachers, everyone in our St. Anne School family should be treated with respect and courtesy.
3. **Be creative.** Think, think, think! Use your imagination, your commonsense, your courage, and look for new ways to meet challenges. Don't expect answers to be handed to you, in class or in life. You have to figure them out yourself!
4. **Be on time.** The morning bell rings at 8:20 a.m. If you are not on line with your class at that time, you are late. Being late makes it more difficult to get organized and focused for the day ahead. When moving from class to class, get your stuff and go! Don't distract yourself and your classmates by talking about things that can be discussed at lunch time and after school!
5. **Be prepared.** This is sixth grade. Make sure you have pens, pencils, notebooks, and everything else you need for each class. Check your backpack at night to make sure you put everything in it for the next day.

### **Subject Areas and Teachers**

**Math and Reading:** Mrs. Dianna Walsh (Homeroom 6B)

**Science:** Ms. Kristy Lemke (Homeroom 6A)


**Language Arts:** Mrs. Tracey Hulse (Homeroom 5B)

**Social Studies and Reading:** Mr. James Puntasecca (Homeroom 5A)

*Please check each teacher's website for information on each subject area.*

### **Grade 6 Reading**

We will begin our second novel of the year in January. *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry, is set in the future, in a time when human beings have chosen Sameness as the solution to keeping peace among people. The choice to eliminate all emotional and physical differences among individuals, and the rules and regulations required to maintain the order in this strict society, give rise to questions that also shaped the story of *Tuck Everlasting*: What is the difference between living and existing? What qualities in our life make it worth living? What price are we willing to pay for love, faith, and hope? Our study of *The Giver* will include vocabulary enrichment, analysis and



discussion of plot and character development, identification of direct quotations from text and their significance to the story, and the design and development of a future society.

**Test Dates**

**Friday, January 20:** Chapters 1-5 Vocabulary and Comprehension

*Additional test dates will be announced.*

**Math**

**Math tips:**

**Make sure you have all of your basic supplies**—sharpened pencils, erasers, notebooks, textbook, workbook—everyday. Homework or class work assignments done in pen will be considered incomplete. Demerits will be issued for incomplete homework assignments—no exceptions.

**Pay attention in class.** We complete sample problems and examples on the board each day. Listen as each step of the process is explained and ask questions if any step is confusing.

**Copy everything from the board into your notebook.** Rules, process, sample problems...anything written on the board should be copied into your notebook and reviewed every night.

**Do your homework carefully and thoughtfully.** Rushing to get it done will only result in mistakes and confusion. Use your class notes and class work to do your homework. Ask for help if you need it—mom, dad, an older sibling, a classmate. Then ask the teacher the next day to explain the material you had trouble with the night before.

**Memorize your multiplication tables!**

**Double check your work every time.**

**Don't panic.** It may take three or four examples before a process makes sense. Stay focused and keep asking questions.

**Worry about yourself.** Don't compare your experience with math to anyone else's. A classmate may work more quickly than you do. Another classmate may "get it" right away, while you have to do a few examples to understand. So what? Just focus on your own learning.

**Think!** Math is logical. Work carefully and follow the same steps in a process each time.

**Have a positive attitude.** It doesn't have to be your favorite subject, but it is the most useful when it comes to real life applications. Make a commitment to yourself to try your best everyday.

**Grade 6 Math**

In December, we began Chapter 3, working with decimal place value, expanded form of decimal numbers, comparing and ordering decimal numbers, and adding and subtracting decimal numbers. We will now move on to Chapter 4, multiplying and dividing decimal numbers, and then go on to Chapter 9: Geometry.

As we move through the second half of the year, please help your children develop the study skills and work ethic they need to succeed in math through their high school years. Please encourage them to review their notes daily, to work carefully and thoughtfully, and to THINK logically about numbers. Paying attention in class and asking questions are key to understanding the material, especially as we move into more difficult concepts.

**Test Dates**

**Friday, January 6:** Chapter 3-6 to 3-9 and Chapter 4-1 to 4-5 (Addition, subtraction, multiplication of decimal numbers)

**Friday, January 13:** Chapter 4-6 to 4-10 (Division of decimal numbers)

**Wednesday, January 25:** Chapter 4 (all sections)

**Grade 5 Math**



In December, we began Chapter 4, working with prime and composite numbers, prime factorization, and finding least common multiples and least common denominators. In January, we will complete Chapter 4, renaming improper fractions as mixed numbers and vice versa, and comparing and ordering fractions. We will then move on to Chapter 5, adding and subtracting fractions with like and unlike denominators, which includes making equivalent fractions, renaming sums and differences, and renaming minuends.

Fractions are an important part of the fifth grade math curriculum, and so it is critical that your children are prepared for and focused in class. Please make sure your child has pencils and erasers! Check homework pages and review class notes every night. Emphasize the importance of paying attention in class! This extra effort will help your children develop the organizational skills and work ethic they need to succeed in math through their middle school and high school years.

***Test Dates***

**Wednesday, January 11:** Chapter 4-7 to 4-10

**Friday, January 27:** Chapter 5 (all sections except 5-12)

***Questions? Concerns? Contact me at [mrswalsh@stannenj.com](mailto:mrswalsh@stannenj.com).***