**English Language Arts**

**7th Grade**

**Mrs. Schlemmer and Mrs. Thornton**

**2014-2015**

**WMS-WSD**

Room 202

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Welcome to 7th grade English Language Arts in room 202! As we begin a fresh school year, you can look forward to reading some very exciting literature and learning new skills and concepts to use while reading. Additionally, you will learn ways to enhance your own writing. As your teachers, our goals are for you to succeed in all that we learn this year. We will do all that we can to help you learn.

**Materials in class**: *Prentice Hall Literature*: Common Core Edition

*The Cay*- Novel

*A Night to Remember*- Novel

*Amanda/Miranda*- Novel

Various other novels for literature circles

**Other Materials:**

* 1 inch 3-ring binder
* Paper
* Dividers (5 tabs)
* Pens/pencils
* Public Library Card

**Units we will be studying**:

* Unit 1: Fiction and Nonfiction
* Unit 2: Short Stories
* Unit 3: Types of Nonfiction
* Unit 4: Poetry
* Unit 5: Drama
* Unit 6: Themes in the Oral Tradition
* Novel Study: *The Cay*
* Novel Study: *A Night to Remember* and *Amanda/Miranda*
* Literature Circles

**Grading:**

* Assessments: 70%
* Accelerated reader: 10%
  + Meeting your goal
  + Comprehension
* Classwork: 15%
  + Warm-ups
  + Notes
  + Vocabulary Checks
* Homework: 5%

**Your Binder:** In our class, you are expected to keep your binder neat and organized. There will be 5 sections in your binder. We will have random (unannounced) notebook checks in class.

1. Warm-ups
2. Classwork
3. Homework
4. Assessments
5. Writing

**Homework:** Typically, you will be responsible for reading **at least** 30 minutes a night of your Accelerated Reader book. You will also be assigned various other homework including vocabulary, work on a book project, and independent reading for literature circles. You will have homework Monday through Thursday (no homework on Friday ☺). As a new policy, students may turn in late homework for 50% the following school day, 25% for turning it in two days late, and 0% any days following. Progress reports will be sent home every other Monday and should be signed and returned as a homework grade no later than Wednesday.

**Classroom Rules and Procedures: All WMS Rules of Conduct are valid in my classroom.** Additionally, our classroom rules are the same as other classrooms in our team: be in uniform; no food, candy, gum, or drink; be prepared and on time; raise your hand to speak; respect yourself, others, and property. In our class, we expect you to show respect for yourself, for your classmates, for your teachers, and for your school. Anything you do in our class that shows disrespect and/or breaks the rules will have consequences as follows:

* Verbal Warning
* Phone call/email to parent or guardian
* Lunch Detention/one-on-one conference with your teacher
* Written referral

As your teachers, we promise to give you all that we can to make this year a fun and beneficial experience. We expect the same from you!

**In/out Box:** When it is time to hand in classwork, you will have one person from your class collect the work to turn in to your class “In” box. Once your teachers are finished grading the material, we will put your assignments in your class’ “Out” box. It is your responsibility to pass back assignments. You should only pass back assignments at proper moments in class. Do not pass back papers while we are giving instructions, during class discussion, or during group work. The best time to pass back papers is if there is extra time at the end of class, during independent working times, or if you finish your work early.

**Bathroom Pass:** If you need to use the bathroom, please see your teacher for a pass. Be sure to have your agenda book with you at all times because you MUST have your agenda book to leave the room; **no agenda book= no visit to the bathroom**.

**If You Are Late:** Being late to class for any reason will result in a warning, followed by a phone call home, then a lunch detention, and finally a referral. Please put your best effort into getting to class on time! If you are delayed by another teacher, it is your responsibility to ask that teacher for a pass.

**Lockers:** You will have time to visit your lockers at the beginning and end of your day. Please have all of your materials that you will need for the day with you as you will not be permitted to return to your locker. In addition, purses are permitted but should be no bigger than the size of your agenda book.

**Absences:** If you are absent, please check with your teacher to see what you have missed. You have the same number of days to make up the work as you missed. If you need more time, please ask before the missed work is due. If you have any questions about the work, feel free to ask in class or send an email from home.

**This is going to be a GREAT year in Honors English Language Arts class. We look forward to working with you and know you will put 100% of your effort into making your learning a great experience.**