

Dear 7th grade parents and students,

My name is Mrs. Wheeler and I'll be teaching three 7th grade literacy classes and one 7th grade social studies class this year. I am excited to be back at school after a great summer. Please note that this year, I will be trying to do much more "paperless" teaching. My classroom is equipped with a set of chromebook laptops for students to use. They will be accessing my website for handouts and assignments. I hope this helps with parent communication as well, since you can reach me via email and see all the assignments and due dates on the website. Students are also welcome to bring a laptop from home if they want.

My class website is: <http://mrswheels.weebly.com>

In literacy this year, students will be engaging with a number of texts, both fiction and non-fiction. We will begin with cultural identity and memoir, work on writing original fiction, poetry and essays as well as non-fiction articles and research papers. I also provide many opportunities for students to choose books they are interested in reading. Students will be part of book club reading groups and participate in class discussions.

In social studies, students will be learning about world history from the ancient world through the Renaissance. We will cover ancient civilizations such as Greece, Egypt and China, geography, economics and the history of Europe through the Middle Ages and to the Renaissance. There is a lot of content to cover, but it's pretty interesting!

As does the rest of our school, I will be grading according to standards using the scale of A for advanced, P for proficient, PP for partially proficient and U for unsatisfactory. For many summative and major assignments, students have the option to re-write the assignment for a better grade one time. Late work can be turned in up to two days beyond the due date for full credit. Late work affects a student's work habits grades. Just like in 6th grade, students will get an academic grade as well as a work habits grade for each class.

I am looking forward to a great year! If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Sarah Wheeler

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