



English 6, 2016-2017, Mr. Allan

Welcome to another school year, dear parents. I hope this brief letter will give you an idea of what we'll be covering this year in English.

Content of the Class

- Reading from our anthology, both fiction and nonfiction pieces; also reading from young readers' novels: *Percy Jackson*, *Dragonwings*
- Writing: narratives, arguments, and explanatory essays
- Language skills, i.e. grammar, language conventions, correct usage
- Vocabulary development

Reading from the anthology will take place in class and the students will not need to take the book home. However, if there are students who need more time to read they are able to check out a book to take home. Reading from the novels will take place partly in class but mainly at home.

The above-mentioned language skills and vocabulary work will be covered in weekly homework packets to be given out each Monday.

Supplies

The students should come to class with:

- A tabbed divider in their binders labelled "English"
- Lined filler paper
- Pencils and pens (a pencil sharpener also would be helpful)
- A set of colored pencils or markers

Grading

The students will be graded on:

- Notes or responses to their reading, which could be in hardcopy form or may exist electronically in their Google Classroom accounts
- End of unit assessments, which could be presentations, projects, collaborations with other classmates - which again, could be hardcopy or electronic
- Essays
- AR (Accelerated Reader) points accumulated by the end of each quarter
- Weekly homework packets, mentioned above

Homework

Homework will involve:

- Weekly language/vocabulary packets
- Reading from class novels
- Unfinished unit projects
- Unfinished essays
- Independent reading to reach AR points goal (and hopefully just for fun)

The students should always record their homework in their agendas.

I will also keep parents and student posted on homework and due dates in the Remind app which enables me to send text message or email alerts to you. The directions for signing up for these alerts are on the following pages. Please note there are two separate directions: one for students in Honors English and another for students in Regular English.

Contacting Me & Keeping Current

My web page is at sierravista.cvusd.org

Click on *Staff Directory* under the banner, then scroll down and click on *Mike Allan*.

On Fridays I also update grades in the Aeries parent portal. There, you will be able to keep track of your child's progress. Information on how to access the parent portal will be sent to you by the school. Information on how to access Aeries will be parent portal will be mailed to you by the school in the next few weeks.

My email: mallan@c-vusd.org

It's an honor to have your child in my class. I look forward to the year ahead and to meeting each of you at conferences.