

Welcome to 6th Grade! School Year 2019/2020

Please fill out:

1. Incoming 6th grade parent/ guardian information paper
2. AUP form
3. Parent Portal registration

Please get a 6th grade supply list

6th grade

[Mrs. Ball-Math – mball@berlincentral.org](mailto:mball@berlincentral.org)

[Mrs. Gilbert-ELA – agilbert](#)

[Mrs. Kabir, Mrs. Mooney-Reading – nkabir, mmooney](#)

[Mrs. Hammersmith-Social Studies – ehammersmith](#)

[Mr. Scannell – Science – bscannell](#)

[Mrs. Kelly - Special Education - dkelly](#)

[Mrs. Wallace- Art – cwallace](#)

[Ms. Eliashuk/Mrs. Gould -Music – leliashuk/jgould](#)

[Mrs. Honsinger, Mrs. Berschwinger. Mr. Weaver-PE - shonsinger/fberschwinger/jweaver](#)

[Mrs. Harrison, Guidance: rharrison/](#)

[Mrs. Putterman Hoffmann, Ms. Augustine-Counseling staff - mputtermanhoffman/jaugustine](#)

[Ms. Murray - School Psychologist - bmurray](#)

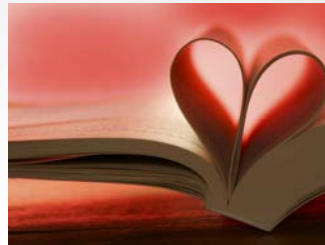
[Dr. Allain- Principal – callain](#)

[Homework is listed on Schoology](#)

Mrs. Gilbert-ELA

- ❖ SRI - Lexile Level (reading level)
 - How do I help my child choose books at his/her level?
 - How do I know if a book is appropriate for my child (reading and content)
 - www.lexile.com
 - www.commonensemedia.org

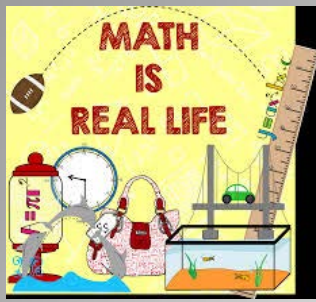
- ❖ Quarter Topics
 - Overcoming Adversity
 - Choices
 - Heroes
 - Author's Craft



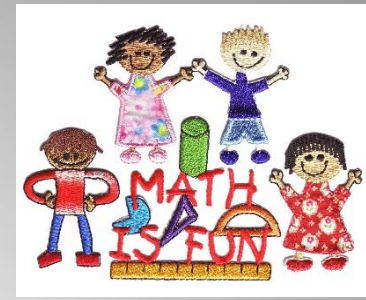
25 Book Challenge
Students will receive incentives and points for reading books over the summer and throughout the school year.

What can I expect for ELA homework?

- ❖ Vocabulary Words
 - Homework/practice work Monday-Wednesday in Sadlier vocabulary book
 - Study the vocabulary words Thursday
 - Quiz on Friday
 - The importance of learning versus memorizing
 - How can I help?
 - What does studying look like?
 - Where can I find the words and online studying games?
 - <https://www.sadlierconnect.com/@766670>
- ❖ Writing Projects:
 - Each quarter - we start in class but time might be needed outside of class to finish
 - Where can I find the writing projects if my child has lost their copy?
 - Reading
 - Each quarter students choose a book at their Lexile that connects to the theme we are



Mrs. Ball- Math



This year your child is expected to reach fluency with simple calculations so they are better able to understand complex concepts. Progress will be made in applying appropriate mathematical concepts to new situations.

Students will

- apply math concepts to “real world” situations
- develop a common mathematical vocabulary
- spend the year on ratios and rates; division of fractions; fluently adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals; understanding rational numbers; algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities; statistics; determining the area, surface area, and volume of shapes.

Homework - Given several times per week. Please see schoology for homework information.

- Your child should review the math concepts taught in class on a daily basis.
- Ask your child to bring home their assignment.
- Make sure all work to solve the problems is shown and the solutions appear to be reasonable.
- Students should use examples in their notes, textbook, and online resources.
- Math Blast assignments will not be accepted late as students are typically given 5-7 days to complete these assignments.

Quizzes, Tests, & Culminating Activities

- Typically given 3-5 days notice regarding an upcoming quiz or test.
- Your child should study their notes and corrected assignments.

Studying

- On a daily basis, with your child, go over examples in their notes and the textbook for the day's lesson.
- Review all vocabulary terms related to the math concepts taught in class.

Mrs. Hammersmith-Social Studies

Your children will be learning about world history of the Eastern Hemisphere from prehistory through 1400. We will discuss geography and historical events through primary and secondary resources. Students will need to be aware of:

Homework - Given at least once a week, sometimes more

- Assignments will range from creative writing assignments and images, to written informational essays and research projects (Mostly completed in class). Students will be notified early in the week of their assignments via schoology and the classroom HW board.
- Assignments must be completed and handed in before the end of the quarter to receive any credit for their work.
- HW checks are the only assignments that CANNOT be made up by the end of the quarter
- Please see schoology for homework information

Tests & Quizzes - Given at the end of each unit

- Organizational review quizzes- folder checks
- Students will have opportunities to do test corrections to earn back ½ the credit that they lost
- Students will need to rewrite the incorrect questions fully, followed by the correct answers (any notes, textbook and other resources can be used)



Hammersmith Social Studies-- Continued

Studying

- Students will be given a review sheet for major quizzes and tests
- Students are responsible for completing the review sheets in order to receive extra credit on their quizzes/tests

Projects and Writing

- Students will be expected to complete written and research projects throughout the year
- We will focus on improving our writing using informational texts and supporting evidence
- We will also practice and improve our research skills by using library and online resources to complete a project (travel brochures, posters, presentations and flip books)
- Students will receive rubrics and expectations in advance of all projects.

For questions, please contact Mrs. Hammersmith at ehammersmith@berlincentral.org or via Schoology messenger

Mr. Scannell - Science

1. Lab Safety and the Scientific Method

Students will learn safe lab practices and classroom expectations. The Scientific method focuses on how science is conducted.

2. Earth Science/Plate Tectonics/Rocks and the Rock Cycle

Here we study the dynamics and broader aspects of Earth's geological systems. We *focus* on Earthquakes, Earth's inner structure, volcanoes and the movement of the continents why they move.

3. Sun-Earth-Moon System

For this unit students study the connections between the four seasons and the earth's orbit around the sun, how shadows are affected by not only seasons, but on the rotation of the Earth and what time of day it is..

4. Weather and Climate

We will look at the different weather systems that we experience and what cause them. we will also look at weather maps and learn how to read them.

5 Ecology

Once the warm weather arrives we will begin our unit on ecology. Students will look at how all species are interconnected and how actions on one species can have reactions with another species. We will explore the local habitat and conduct an inventory of all species in the local community/habitat.

Students should have...– a single subject spiral-bound notebook, Students should also have either a black or blue pen and a pencil,

4 red two pocket folders (one for each unit covered)

In our classroom Science is taught using an inquiry based method. Students will be using equipment near daily to model actual events that occur naturally.

Labs – labs play a very big part of our class. Students will be asked to turn in their completed labs for a grade. Often times these labs will include graphical representation of the data gathered in the labs. We will be focusing on graphing data throughout the year. (All labs conducted in PENCIL ONLY!)

Homework - I do not assign HW daily, but students can expect HW 1-2 times per week. Labs often need to be completed outside class, once data has been collected.

- Students should bring their notebooks & folders. I encourage parents to look through their child's binder, folder and notebook periodically.

Quizzes & Tests –

- Unit tests will be announced well ahead of time as will most quizzes, however pop-quizzes can occur.
- Science Starters - a daily quiz question. These take-home quizzes are collected at the start of class every Friday. Parents should check for thorough completion with their children on Thursday evenings.

Mr. Scannell - Science

Student grade is determined by

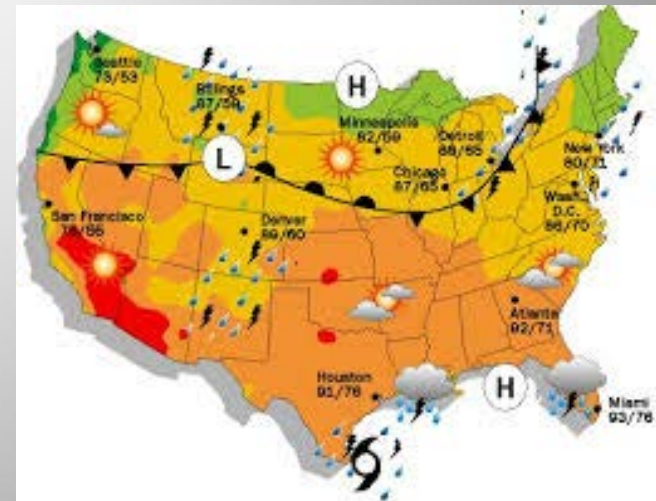
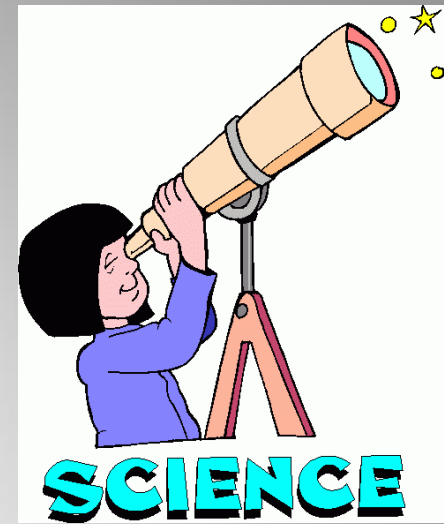
Class Participation = 10%

Labs = 30%

Quizzes = 30%

Unit tests = 20%

Homework = 10%



Mrs. Kelly- Special Education

W E L C O M E 😊



1. Transition – I'll be here to help.

2. Co-teaching - daily in ELA and Math

Consulting in Science and Social Studies

3. Students– Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

Students with disabilities can achieve great things in school when they receive the supports and services they need.

4. Feel free to contact me at dkelly@berlincentral.org and/or 658-1500.

5. Homework Club



Mrs. Wallace-Art



In 6th grade art you will get to experience a variety of art materials. You will use **paint, clay, watercolors, and colored pencils.**

If you love Art but do not have it 1st quarter that is okay! **You can come to Art Club.** Make sure to check the calendar and sign up if you are interested in coming! You do not have to come every month, only when you are able to. **I look forward to meeting all of you soon!**

Ms. Eliashuk-Chorus & Music

- 6th Grade Chorus meets every other day during a 40 minute period. Students will perform in two concerts during the year and sing in two or three parts.

Materials Needed Daily-Pocket folder

- 6th Grade General Music meets for 10 weeks. Students will learn about how music of other cultures compares to music of our cultures, while continually expanding their musical knowledge and vocabulary.

Materials Needed Daily-Pocket Folder & Pencil

Berlin Dramateers-*Honk Jr.* November 2019

RCSMA Elementary All County-Auditions End Sept.

NYSSMA Solo Festival-June 2020 at SCCC

ACDA Elementary Honor Choir-Summer 2020





Mrs. Gould-Music



6th Grade Band - Band meets during a 40 minute period every other day. Students will receive lessons on their instruments every 1-2 weeks.

This year there will also be the introduction of a Middle School Jazz Band. The group will be made up of students from grades 6-8. Students will be selected based on auditions that will be held at the beginning of the school year.

The Jazz Band will meet once a week either after school or during Triple M once the students have been selected. The day of the week is still to be decided.

Mr. Weaver, Mrs. Honsinger, and Mrs. Berschwinger-PE

**In 6th grade and there after there is a
changing requirement for all PE classes.**

Students should have:

- shorts and a tee shirt
 - sweats and a sweatshirt
 - an extra pair of socks
 - an older pair of sneakers
 - hand sanitizer and deodorant
 - aerosol cans are not allowed
- PE and health- We are excited to guide you in
lifelong wellness



Ms. Lazarony, Mrs. Putterman Hoffmann,
Ms. Augustine-Counseling staff

Lunch Bunch

•All 6th graders will have an opportunity to participate in Lunch Bunch with Ms. Lazarony. Each week 6 sixth graders will be invited to bring their lunch on a designated day. Lunch is relaxed and fun and a great way for everyone to meet. This is totally optional and if a student is invited and does not want to come he/she is just asked to give the invitation to another 6th grader. Individual and group meetings for problem-solving are also available.



Opportunities



- FCCLA – Mrs. Osterhout
- Art Club – Mrs. Wallace and Ms. Noles
- Middle School Dramateers – Mrs. Eliashuk, Ms. Day, and Mrs. Gould
- Principal’s List Quarterly Trips (very short notice due to grades)
- Middle School Student Council – Mrs. Gilbert
- SADD - Ms. Augustine
- OOTM - Odyssey of the Mind - Mrs. Roth and Mrs. Thibeau
- MS Yearbook Club - Mrs. Hammersmith and Mrs. Roth
- Bowling Club - Mrs. Marbot and Mr. Slaver

MSSC

- ❖ Berlin Middle School Student Council sponsors a wide variety of extracurricular, social, and leadership development activities throughout the school year, providing for a complete and enjoyable middle school experience. Some of the activities we put on are school dances, food drives, recycling, the Berlin 5K, and many different types of fundraisers to help out the community. We also organize a middle school **only** pep rallies.
- ❖ The Berlin School Student Council serves the school's students, staff, and community. Student representatives from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade are required to attend all of the meetings and event dates. Members (students not elected into a position) from the 6th, 7th and 8th grade are encouraged to attend the meetings and assist at the events.
- ❖ We meet during Triple M and after school once a month



OOTM

Odyssey of the Mind

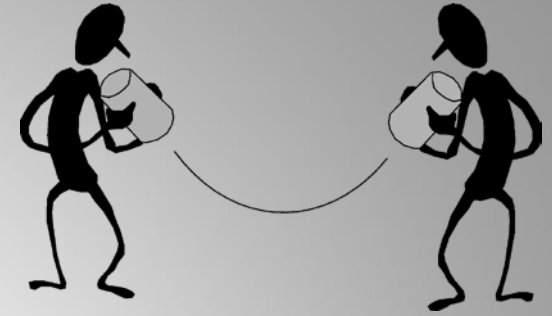
Odyssey of the Mind teaches students to learn creative problem-solving methods while having fun in the process. By tapping into creativity, and through encouraging imaginative paths to problem-solving, students learn skills that will provide them with the ability to solve problems. Odyssey of the Mind teaches students how to think outside the box by providing open-ended problems that appeal to a wide range of interests. Students learn how to identify challenges and to think creatively to solve those problems. Students work in teams of 5-7 so they learn cooperation and respect for the ideas of others. They evaluate ideas and make decisions on their own, gaining greater self-confidence and increased self-esteem along the way. They work within a budget, so they learn to manage their money. They see that there's often more than one way to solve a problem, and that sometimes the process is more important than the end result. We meet during Triple M and after school once a week. There is a regional competition on one Saturday in February or March that we travel to.

W.E.B. Program (Where Everybody Belongs)



- The WEB program is a comprehensive peer mentoring and education program .
- It is a program focused on providing positive experiences for incoming 6th graders.
- Your child will be mentored by an 8th grade leader who will contact your student over the summer and encouraged to participate in school wide activities, including **6th Grade Orientation on August 29th from 8:00-11:30**
- When an issue or struggle arises the 8th grade WEB leaders will help to alleviate the tension and problem .
 - If you have specific questions about WEB, please contact erightmyer@berlincentral.org or mhammond@berlincentral.org

Parent Communication



- Homework planners
- School Tool/Schoology (grades/homework, missing assignments)

LOOK for the Schoology Invite for Team 6

- Monthly Newsletter from grade 6
- Interim grades (not mailed, check Schoology)
- Quarterly grades
- Notes/phone calls/emails home when students are doing exceptionally well or not doing well
- Parent/teacher conferences as needed

What are we doing to help students succeed?

Homework

- Sixth grade teachers stay after school on a scheduled day and other times to have students work on owed assignments.

Help

- Extra credit offered in some subjects
- RtI/Reading – offered to eligible students in the areas of Math and ELA

Organization

- Class overviews, rules, expectations, grading policies are sent home and explained to students
- Class notebooks & folders are color coded by subject to aid in student organization

Supplies

5 packages of pens

5 packages of pencils

1 package of colored pencils

Assortment of highlighters

Erasers

Pencil sharpener

5 packs of loose-leaf paper (college-ruled)

5 packages of 3x5 index cards

1 package of post-it notes

2 boxes of Kleenex for homeroom

Hand sanitizer for homeroom

- What do I keep home? What does my child leave in their locker?
 - 1 package of paper in your binder, 1 in locker, the rest home
 - Pencils and pens – put a few in your binder and the rest in your locker
 - Calculator in locker or leave at home to use on homework

Supplies continued

ELA (BLUE)	1-pocket folder BLUE 3 composition notebooks - any color
MATH (GREEN)	<u>Two</u> - 2-pocket folders GREEN (NO PRONGS) <u>One</u> 1.5" binder GREEN or BLACK Calculator- TI - 30X IIS Calculator (Texas Instruments)
SCIENCE (RED)	Four 2-pocket folders RED One 1-subject spiral notebook RED (approx 100 pgs) A box of 10 Pencils (minimum 10)
SOCIAL STUDIES (YELLOW)	6 Yellow 2-pocket folders
SPECIAL EDUCATION	2-pocket folder, ANY COLOR Students need to bring a pencil everyday.
VISUAL ART	Students need to bring a pencil everyday.
GENERAL MUSIC	2-pocket folder ANY COLOR. Students need to bring a pencil everyday.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Shorts and t-shirt* Sweats Athletic Socks Sneakers Deodorant (NO AEROSOL)
HEALTH (ORANGE)	1 spiral notebook ORANGE
LIBRARY	2-pocket folder ANY COLOR
MIDDLE SCHOOL ESSENTIALS	2-pocket folder PURPLE, Pencil
TECH	2-pocket folder, ANY COLOR
CHORUS/BAND	Chorus: Any Folder Band: 3 Ring Binder, Reeds, Oil, Pencil, Highlighter

**Physical Education clothing must adhere to the Dress Code (shorts must be longer than fingertips and shirt must be t-shirt - Neither SPAGHETTI STRAPS nor SLEEVELESS are allowed).*

Questions?

Please hand in your:

1. Incoming 6th grade
parent/guardian information form

2. AUP forms

3. parent portal registration
before you leave

We look forward to a wonderful school year!