

LANGUAGE ARTS 8 2020-2021

Teacher: Mrs. Kinley

"I don't believe in the kind of magic in my books. But I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a good book."- J.K Rowling

The junior high language arts program is organized into speaking, writing, reading, listening, viewing and representing strands. Each strand is developed both as a single skill and as a complementary communication tool in writing and in analyzing literature. It is the intent of all language arts courses to give students the opportunity to develop a lifelong appreciation of the English language as well as a good understanding of how to use it effectively.

5 General Outcomes

from Alberta Program of Studies

- explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences.
- comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print and other media texts.
- manage ideas and information.
- enhance the clarity and artistry of communication.
- respect, support and collaborate with others.

Year at a Glance:

September- October	Introduction & Speakers Corner
November- December	Short Stories & Creative Writing
January- February	Novel Study: The Outsiders
March- April	Poetry & Figurative Language
May	Research & Non-Fiction
June	Media & Film Study- Review for Final Exam

Course Content:

Minor Assignments (40%)

- In-Class activities
- Reading responses
- Book talks

Major Assignments (40%)

- Writing assignments
- Theme projects
- Exams

Final Exam (20%)

*****Student progress will be reported using Powerteacher Pro.**

Students Responsibilities:

- You are required to be on time, prepared for class, and complete all homework assignments.
- You are required to be organized
- You must be respectful of others and the environment around you.
- If you are absent, **YOU** are responsible for making arrangements to complete all notes, assignments, quizzes and tests your first day back. **It is your responsibility to find out what you missed.**
- Homework: If assignments are not handed in on time, you will spend lunch hour with me until it is completed.
- You may have a water bottle in class. Be respectful.
- You are permitted to have a snack in class if it is not distracting to yourself or others, and you keep your workspace clean.
- Cell phones are not permitted in the classroom- for any reason, at any time. You may use them at lunchtime.
- Chromebooks are a privilege and not to be misused. Digital citizenship rules are expected to be followed. Chromebooks are to only be used for educational purposes and assigned work. Chromebook privileges will be removed at my discretion. If you are misusing them, on websites you shouldn't be, or show poor online behavior, I will remove your opportunity to use them.

Requirements for Success

1. **ATTENDANCE:** Students must make every effort to attend all classes. Regular attendance is one of the most important factors for academic success. Lateness is a form of disrespect. If you are late, you are still expected to attend class. Enter the room quietly, sit down and get to work. Do not disrupt the class.
2. **STUDYING:** Regular studying and review of course material at home and preparation for quizzes and tests is essential
3. **RESPONSIBILITY:** Students are responsible to obtain and/or make up all missed readings, notes, materials, assignments, quizzes and/or labs during any absence. Students may obtain missed items from other students or the teacher at an appropriate time so as not to disturb the class.
4. **QUESTIONS:** Be sure to ask questions to clarify concepts. Please make time to see me during breaks, tutorial or after school for extra support.
5. **BEHAVIOUR:** Mature and considerate behaviour is expected in class. Students who do not meet an acceptable standard of behaviour will not be permitted to continue disrupting others.

As your teacher I will:

- **Treat you with dignity and respect.**
- **Educate and promote your learning to the best of my ability.**
- **Provide you with fair assessment and timely feedback.**
- **Try to make your learning as engaging and “fun” as I can.**
- **Provide a safe and caring classroom.**
- **Motivate you to be the best version of yourself.**
- **Inform your parents of any concerns I have about your learning or wellbeing.**

I'm looking forward to having you in my class this year! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the school: **403-783-4411**, or email: **courtney.kinley@wolfcreek.ab.ca**