

August 1, 2019

Dear Future Sixth Grader,

We really enjoyed meeting you in June and look forward to seeing you again on the first day of school! You may be a little nervous about starting middle school at Cawley, but just remember that all of your teachers are here to help you.

You have been placed on the **Yale Team**. The Yale teachers are:

Mr. Fleury, Science

Ms. Gallivan, Language Arts

Ms. Sarette, Social Studies

Ms. Goulakos, Math

Mr. LaCroix, Special Education

### **Language Arts**

Students will work toward mastery in the processes of reading and writing by analyzing literary and informational text. Through novel studies, poetry, and reading various texts, students will study how plot, conflict, and setting contribute to a text, analyze characters and point of view, understand the theme of the text, and discover how sensory language, imagery, and style contribute to understanding. Using critical thinking skills, the students will analyze and compare texts. Throughout the year, students will study three different types of writing: argument, narrative, and explanatory.

### **Math**

The sixth grade math program is designed to help students make sense of math problems and persevere when solving them. Students will increase their understanding of the number system, ratio and proportional relationships, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics. Learning to model and think mathematically are important parts of the curriculum.

### **Science**

Sixth grade students experience science as a hands-on and minds-on class. Students increase their knowledge in the areas of life, earth, and physical science, revisiting and expanding upon certain themes to gain a better understanding of the world in which we live. Our units of study are called: *Can I believe my eyes?* (light waves, their role in sight, and their interaction with matter), *How can I smell things from a distance?* (particle nature of matter and phase changes), *Where have all the creatures gone?* (organisms and ecosystems), and *How does water shape our world?* (water and rock cycles).

### **Social Studies**

Who are we? Where do we come from? Where are we going? In addition to answering the previous questions, sixth grade students will relive the past by studying the history of the Middle East, Europe, and Asia. Many ancient civilizations including Egypt, Greece, Rome, China, Japan, and India are explored. Students discover the impact these cultures had on today's world by examining ancient influences on modern government, art, architecture, and economics.

The following is a list of school supplies that is recommended for sixth grade students for their academic classes:

### **Math**

- binder with 1-2" rings, used for math class only
- 5 subject dividers for binder
- dry erase markers and eraser

### **Science**

- binder with 1" rings, used for science class only
- at least 10 sheet protectors

### **Language Arts**

- 1 binder with 1" rings, for language arts class only
- three-subject spiral bound notebook, wide-ruled
- pocket folder

### **Social Studies**

- binder with 1" rings, used for social studies class only
- white lined paper
- sheet protectors

**DON'T BUY AN ASSIGNMENT BOOK!** You will be given an *agenda book* at the beginning of the school year.

We hope you enjoy your last few days of summer and look forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,  
The Yale Team of Teachers