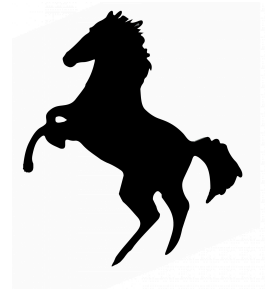


# Sixth Grade Classroom Expectations

Welcome to sixth grade! We are so excited about our new school year. It is our goal to educate 6th graders in a positive and productive fashion. We also desire to create a safe and unique classroom for all students. In order to create a positive learning environment for everyone, guidelines and expectations must be set for all participants in the class. The sixth grade team at Meridian Elementary teaches leadership habits and emotional well-being.. These skills empower students to be in charge of their daily actions and learning.



## Rewards

*We strive to reinforce positive behaviors in many ways. Some of the more concrete reinforcements include:*

1. **Earning 'VISAs' for Behavior** - Students who behave appropriately in class can earn an extra VISA. Appropriate behavior can look like active listening and participation, following clear directions promptly, being kind/respectful to ALL, and staying on task/choosing appropriate quiet time activities when done with work.
3. **Awarding Extra 'VISAs'** - Students who meet set goals and/or are observed performing extraordinary deeds that go above and beyond the call of duty may be rewarded with extra 'VISAs'.
4. **Visa Victories** - Students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership for a specified period of time, as evidenced by the VISA system, will earn free time / extra recess.

## Consequences

*If a student has difficulty exhibiting appropriate sixth grade habits/behaviors, the following actions will take place:*

1. **First Offense** - Verbal Warning
2. **Second Offense** - Behavior issues will be noted on student 'VISA'.
3. **Third Offense** - If a student is repeatedly struggling to meet behavior or academic expectations, a parent will be contacted via phone call, email, or 'Responsibility Form' filled out by the student. When a 'Responsibility Form' is completed, the teacher and student will discuss the form and the student will take it home for a parent/guardian's signature, to be returned the next day.
4. **Fourth Offense** - Student may be reported to the office. If a referral is necessary, parents will be contacted. All severe behavior will be referred immediately to the Principal or Dean of Students.

## Homework Policy:

*The purpose of homework is to practice skills that have already been learned in the classroom. Consistent practice promotes understanding and helps to maintain a focus on learning.*

1. All homework must be turned in on time, unless a plan has been worked out with the teacher beforehand for additional time.
2. Any work not turned in will be ineligible for assessment and may affect your overall score in IC.
3. If a student is absent, it is their responsibility to complete any missed assignments. Students will be given as many days as they were absent to complete missed assignments. If a student is absent, they need to check EACH of their Google Classrooms while they are out AND check with each of their teachers when they return for any work they need to makeup. Students will be responsible for making up any work they miss during absences.
4. Students will be given time in class to work on daily practice and/or classwork, however, if the classwork is not completed during the school day it will be assigned as homework. Students will utilize a daily agenda to keep track of assignments and due dates.
5. Some homework will be in the form of long-term assignments. These types of assignments help the students learn the importance of time management, which is crucial for junior high. As well as being recorded in their agendas, long-term due dates will be included in parent emails and/or on a teacher maintained Google Calendar.

**Agendas:**

Agendas are used to teach students organization and responsibility and are often used to communicate with parents.

**Please check your child's agenda daily.** It does not need to be signed, but it helps hold your child accountable if they know you are checking in with them on a regular basis.

**Responsibility:**

In an effort to teach each student personal responsibility, students will not have an opportunity to call home for anything they may have forgotten. This includes lunches, homework, binders, independent reading books and musical instruments. Please help your student with a morning and evening routine that will minimize forgotten items. In the case of a forgotten lunch, the school will provide a simple sack lunch to ensure that no child will go hungry. I would ask that you please respect this policy and allow your child to be responsible for their actions.

**ID Cards / Lanyards:**

Students are responsible for keeping track of their own ID card, storing it in an approved lanyard, and wearing it to and at school **every day**. Approved lanyards are those that have a break-away closure on the back to prevent injuries from being caught on anything. Students who lose their ID card will need to notify their teacher immediately, so that a replacement can be obtained. Replacements may be paper, rather than plastic.

**Absences:**

If your child is ill, please keep them home. If your child is just tired, please make sure they get a good breakfast and send them anyway! If you are planning family vacations, please try to schedule them during holidays or breaks. New information is taught daily and it can be especially difficult to “catch-up” where skills are built upon each day in both math and ELA. Also, keep in mind that attendance is extremely important during the months of February, March, and April as we prepare for and conduct state testing.

**Cell Phones and Smart Watches:**

We understand the need for some children to have cell phones and smart watches before and after school as a direct link to parents who are at work. However, once they arrive on campus, all phones should be turned off and put away in their backpack (NOT their pocket). Smart watches need to be put on airplane mode while at school and in your child's backpack. **Any child with a cell phone or smart watch at school must have a signed personal electronics permission form on file.** Please be sure to review the rules and consequences on this form with your child.

**Communication:**

Infinite Campus (IC) is available online at any time (Mobile Code: RVYGXX). Instructions for accessing IC can be found on the district website ([www.gilbertschools.net](http://www.gilbertschools.net)) under the ‘Parent Zone’ tab. Along with your child's VISA page and agenda, this will be our primary form of communication regarding your child's academic progress, and we ask that you support us at home by checking VISA pages and IC with your child on a weekly basis. IC will allow you to see your child's current progress on the standards that have been taught, as well as any missing assignments. Please remember, reports are updated regularly, but NOT daily, and until the end of the quarter, all scores are **in progress**. Midterm Reports and Quarterly Report Cards will also be available online, via Infinite Campus. Please let us know if you are not receiving regular emails from sixth grade teachers.

We are looking forward to having your child in our classes. Please feel free to call or email us if you have questions.

Sincerely,  
The Sixth Grade Team