

Welcome to 8th Grade Reading and Language Arts!

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to motivate and encourage students to become avid and engaged readers, writers, and listeners. During the duration of this course, we will learn how to construct and present ideas using appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication cues and determine the deeper purpose and meaning within fiction and nonfiction texts.

Here are the books we will be reading in class this year:

- *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank
- *The Great Gatsby* by Scott Fitzgerald

Teacher Contact Information

Ms. Bradshaw

- Availability: 7:45-8:25 AM, 12:35-1:20 PM (Tuesdays & Thursdays), 3:20-4:00 PM
- Email: cbradshaw@flasherschool.org

Materials for Class

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| ● English-designated Notebook | Everyday |
| ● 3-ring binder OR a folder | Everyday |
| ● Pen (black, blue, or green) | OWA |
| ● Pencils | Everyday |
| ● Highlighter | OWA |
| ● Chromebook (Keep it CHARGED!!) | OWA |

****OWA (Only when asked) - Chromebooks will not be allowed in class unless specifically stated or allowed by the teacher.****

Classroom Rules

There are **FIVE** classroom rules to follow:

1. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself.
2. Keep desks, chairs, and feet on the floor.
3. Clean up after yourself and others.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and materials to yourself.

Consequences for breaking these rules will be determined depending on the severity of the violation.

General School Policies

See the Flasher Student Handbook for additional school wide policies (attendance, late work, serious discipline procedures, food/drink in the room, etc.) which can be found on the school webpage under resources.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is stealing someone else's work and passing it off as your own. Do **NOT** make the mistake of believing this would be okay within the classroom as neither the school nor I will tolerate it. As the Student Handbook states, the following are all examples of plagiarism:

- Paraphrasing another's work without citing
- Copying word for word another's work without citing
- Using facts from another's work that are not common knowledge without citing
- Use the main ideas from someone else's work for an assignment without citing
- Copying another student's work
- Copying or attempting another's signature.
- Supplying answers or work for another student to copy or submit as their own.

****Think before you act.****

Cell Phones and Smart Watches

There is a 'no cell phone policy' within the classroom. Should you bring your phone to class, the following three strike rule will apply:

- **Strike 1:** The phone will be confiscated and held until the end of the class period.
- **Strike 2:** The phone will be confiscated and brought to Mr. Krenz to be picked up at the end of the school day.
- **Strike 3:** The phone will be dropped off everyday in the morning to the main office and may be picked up at the end of the school day.

Smart Watches are allowed in the classroom until they are used as anything other than a watch, at which point they will be confiscated. If you see this, come to school tomorrow and discreetly ask me, "What is the motto?" All Smart Watches will be placed on my desk prior to any tests and quizzes.

Daily Activities (DA)

Daily Activities will be posted on the whiteboard every day prior to class. These activities include the following:

- **Monday Madness** - Sentences will be written on the board that are in need of corrections. You will be given the printed sentence and must correct them while labeling whether the correction is a Capitalization, Utilization, Punctuation, or Spelling error (abbreviation: C.U.P.S.).

- **Tuesday Terms** - 3-5 new terms will be written on the board. You will need to write the terms and definitions down in your notebook as well as a sentence using the word correctly. Every other week, we will have a quiz over these terms.
- **Reading Wednesday** - The class will silently read the first (or last) 15 minutes of class. At the end of the 1st and 3rd quarter, you will give a Reader Response presentation in regards to one book you have read or are currently reading. (**Class specific books do NOT count.**)
- **Thinking Thursday** - A thought-provoking prompt will be written on the whiteboard. You will write your response in your notebook using proper C.U.P.S. (Note: you will be given 5 minutes after the bell to write your response. Use that time wisely!)
- **Frenzy Fridays** - A riddle or puzzle will be written on the whiteboard. You will use a sticky note to write your answer. If you guess correctly, you will earn an extra credit point.

Grading

At least two grades will be added into PowerSchool every Friday. Monday Madness and Thinking Thursdays will be graded accordingly each week, while Tuesday Terms and Reading Wednesdays will be graded for participation.

Accommodation Statement

If you feel that you need extra help to be successful in this class, contact the classroom teacher. All students have access to general education modifications as agreed upon with the classroom teacher and title services as scheduled with the title departments. If you have an IEP or 504, you may also contact the special education department or 504 coordinator for extra support.

cut here → -----

If any students feel as if they need extra help, I am here throughout the school day; I am also available from 7:45 - 8:25 am and 3:20 - 4:00 pm. You have the choice to visit me in person or send me an email if you have any questions. I am always excited and willing to help students who take the initiative to seek me out and are eager to learn.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Your signature indicates that you have read and understand the course syllabus.