



Dear Sixth Grade Students & Families,

Welcome to 6th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation! You and your child are entering a place that is growing, changing, and always learning. Each one of us is an integral building block for the culture we all envision and, while that is exciting, it is also a big responsibility for students, parents, and teachers alike. The sixth grade team wanted to introduce ourselves, our classes, and a few expectations we have for our grade-level.

**From students**, we expect a willingness to grow, to realize that no matter what your past school experience there is always room for us to learn and become better people together. We expect students to treat our people and our spaces with respect. We expect students to strive to be visible and valuable in and out of class and to be ever mindful of their own contribution to our growing culture. We are all responsible for what kind of school we are building.

**From our parents**, the biggest thing we can ask for is patience. Please assume best intent from us. Our team is made up of people who are deeply invested in every child in our care. We want exactly what you want--namely, the best learning and growing environment your child can have. If there are conflicts, concerns, or needs (and there will be), please approach us as teammates in raising and educating your child. Our respectful cooperation is the best example we can present to our kids.

**From your teachers**, you can expect us to come to know your child well on an academic and a personal level. You can expect us to make decisions based upon your child's best interest. You can expect us to help them, to guide them, to encourage them, to model the things we ask of them, to build them up, to communicate, to push them to do more than they ever thought they could. And, most of all, you can expect us to love them. Our goal for every student is that they will be a better person for having been a member of our 6th Grade CREW.

We have all landed in a great place together and we look forward to helping this be your child's best school year yet. After we get settled into the year, we will be sending information on how you can access classroom info and assignments. In the meantime, here are some basics to get you started for each of your child's core academic classes:

**Math with Mr. Keller**

Sixth grade math expands upon previous knowledge while introducing and developing new “middle school” concepts. The curriculum includes concepts of rate and ratio, number system operations, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics/probability. The overarching goal of this course is to integrate Common Core into the realm of Expeditionary Learning so that students are ready to tackle problem solving in the real world. Projects and activities follow the EL model by focusing on real-life application, collaborative learning, and hands-on, project-based activities. Mr. Keller aims to support a variety of learning styles in the classroom by offering multiple means of material presentation and student engagement. Critical thinking, problem solving, and creative input are highly encouraged in this course.

**English-Language Arts with Ms. O’Dell**

In ELA this year students will develop advanced writing skills by exploring narrative and nonfiction texts. Students will learn how to effectively collaborate through meaningful discussion, group work, peer review, positive critique and effective feedback. EL modules will be centered around specific novels with relevant texts and students will have performance tasks at the end of each module, such as identifying thematic character development, scene rewrites, researching problem/solution essays, and producing audible thematic interpretations of nonfiction and fictional texts. Students will explore how Habits of Character provide a foundation for successful collaboration, compassion and growth throughout the course and how it applies to their success in class and community.

**Social Studies with Mr. Clendenin**

Sixth grade social studies will continue to build on the knowledge and skills they investigated in 5th grade with an examination of the world from the Paleolithic Age through Medieval Europe. Their studies center on how geography influenced settlement, the need for and role of government in society, the development of economic systems, how culture impacts society, and how things change over time. Students will be evaluated based on work from their composition notebook and binder, unit assessments, projects and in class assignments. This course also uses simulations and games to help students experience impactful events throughout history.

**Science with Mr. Berry-Foster**

In science this year students will explore a range of physical, earth and life science topics as a lens through which to learn the process of scientific inquiry. By the end of this course students will know basic principles of ecology, geology, chemistry, waves, astronomy and more. Units and lessons are designed to help students experience the power of scientific discovery through hands-on learning, inquiry, and critical thinking. The course will address the North Carolina Essential Standards for 6th grade science. Students will be evaluated based on in-class work, projects, tests and quizzes.

***Finally, thank you for choosing to entrust our team with your child’s education. We can’t wait to get to know them and to watch them grow. Please feel free to be in touch with us as needs arise and we will do the same. It’s going to be an exceptional year.***

***All the best,***

***Charlie Keller, Ashley O’Dell, Bryan Clendenin, Latt Berry-Foster, Tammy Leahy***

## Supply List 2022-2023

### **Required - for individual student use:**

- \$15 consumables fee (turn in to office)
- Pencil pouch (with pencils included)
- 4, 1½ " three-ring view binders
- 2 packs of notebook paper
- 1 pack of graph paper
- 2 regular composition books (not spiral)
- TI-30 XIIS calculator
- 1 ruler
- Handheld pencil sharpener
- Colored pencils
- Sticky notes
- Boxes of tissues

### **For Classroom Use (Optional but much appreciated!):**

- 24 # 2 pencils - (extras appreciated)
- Expo whiteboard markers
- Sharpies (Fine tip and/or Ultra-Fine)
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfectant wipes

Requests from enrichment classes:

### **Technology:**

Students will need a pair of their own headphones (earbuds or over-ear). Do not send expensive sets that might be easily damaged.

### **Art:**

- #2 pencil x 2
- white art eraser
- 2 or more fine tip sharpies
- 2 or more broad tip sharpies
- 1 container disinfectant wipes
- 1 roll paper towels

\*These supplies will be combined with many other supplies and equipment provided by the school such as clay, paint, pastels, papers, markers and more!

*Our Wish list if you would like to donate to help Visual Arts and families in need at FSI:*

- Colored Sharpies
- Fine tip black Sharpies
- Broad tip black Sharpies
- Prismacolor colored pencils
- Ebony pencils
- Oil pastels
- Chalk pastels

- 11x17 copy paper
- white art erasers
- #2 pencils
- Micron Pens any size
- Facial Tissues
- disinfectant wipes
- hand sanitizer