

# Sixth-Grade at Global Arts Plus



Welcome to sixth-grade at Global Arts Plus! We know sixth-grade is a year of transition from elementary to middle school. The 6<sup>th</sup>-grade teaching team is ready to help your child make this grand shift. As we begin our year together, please take a look at the brief class descriptions below, and contact teachers if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you!



## Physical Science, AVID/Go for It – Ms. Emily Kalkbrenner

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Physical Science 6 is a year-long physical science course that covers basic middle school physics and chemistry concepts as well as the engineering design process and the nature of science. Students learn about the properties of matter, how materials and atoms interact in a physical change, types of energy, waves, light, forces and motion. Students use observations, laboratory investigations, and problem solving to analyze and understand the science of everyday physics and chemical phenomena. This laboratory course prepares students for Life Science 7 or Accelerated Science 7.

## Math -- Mrs. Ellen Toivola -- [ellen.toivola@spps.org](mailto:ellen.toivola@spps.org)

This year we will be focusing on concepts covering the following: fractions, decimals, and percents; functions and equations; geometry and measurement; and probability. Our focus will be on using pre-assessments to discover what we already know and how far we need to grow to master each topic. *Students will have a short amount of homework every day to practice their skills.* Additionally, students will be working on daily Math Review to help them develop confidence in basic skills that are necessary to master in order to grow in mathematics. To assist students in achieving their best, they will engage in weekly reflection and homework tracking which will support them in becoming accountable for their learning.



## Minnesota Studies – Ms. Crystal Hannon -- [crystal.hannon@spps.org](mailto:crystal.hannon@spps.org)



Sixth graders will be studying Minnesota history. We will look at the geography of MN, the people who have lived here, the results of actions taken and some of the world or countrywide involvements that have had participation from Minnesotans. We will also be undertaking National History Day, which requires students to pull together research, reading, writing, and presentation skills to support their thesis statements. There is not regular homework in Social Studies but, as projects are undertaken, you will need to check in with your child regularly to help them stay on track. Minnesota, hats off to thee!

## ELA: Reading Workshop -- Ms. Karin Krisetya -- [karin.krisetya@spps.org](mailto:karin.krisetya@spps.org)

Sixth-graders at Global Arts Plus are enrolled in two separate English/ Language Arts courses: Reading Workshop & Writing Workshop. In Reading Workshop, students will explore the habits & strategies of successful readers & reflect on their own reading growth. Sixth-graders will have time to read in class every day, and they are expected to read 30 minutes or pages each night for homework. We will explore units about characters, nonfiction, poetry, research & fantasy.



## **ELA: Writing Workshop -- Ms. Amy Corrigan -- [amy.corrigan@spps.org](mailto:amy.corrigan@spps.org)**



Sixth-graders at Global Arts Plus are enrolled in two separate English/ Language Arts courses: Reading Workshop & Writing Workshop. In Writing Workshop, students will be using the writing process to practice the habits & strategies of successful writers. They will be exploring a variety of genres, beginning with personal narrative. As we progress through the year, students will write personal & literary essays, research projects, and poetry, and fantasy stories.

## **Multi-Language Learners – Ms. Charlotte Young -- [charlotte.young@spps.org](mailto:charlotte.young@spps.org)**



I help students who speak multiple languages use English for school. I co-teach Minnesota Studies, Reading Workshop and Writing Workshop. I help students use academic language in their speaking and writing. We develop vocabulary needed to read and interpret texts used in classes. Sometimes we work in small groups or one on one, or in concert with the content teacher in the classroom. Throughout the year, we will work on using academic language to compare and contrast, share ideas, explain concepts, analyze texts and materials, and much more! I also teach Social Studies in the Language Academy for newcomers to our community!

## **Special Ed. 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>-grade (Literacy, Skills) – Mr. Brian Blakely [brian.blakely@spps.org](mailto:brian.blakely@spps.org)**



Scholars in the Reading Concepts course will be working for mastery of the grade six standards for reading and writing through differentiated, individualized instructional practices designed around their learning needs. The curriculum of the Readers and Writers Workshop will be implemented with adaptations unique to each learner, in order that they can make great gains this year!

## **Special Ed. 6<sup>th</sup>-grade (Math, Skills, AVID8) – Ms. Therese O’Meara [therese.omeara@spps.org](mailto:therese.omeara@spps.org)**



In Math 6 Concepts we will work towards student’s annual Math Individual Education Plan goals. We will use the knowledge we already have in order to better understand fractions, decimals, and percents; functions and equations; geometry and measurement; and probability. In class we will use more hands-on and interactive lessons in order to represent and apply what we are learning.

In Skills for High School Readiness we use the AVID curriculum in order to become stronger scholars. We balance our time between organizing and completing work for other classes and learning new tools and strategies to support us in those spaces. We also learn about options for our future and have many opportunities to practice working in groups.

## **Global Arts Plus Upper – Main Office –**

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