

## Welcome to Miss Malone's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Class!

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! I am pleased to be your 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts teacher. In this welcome letter, you will find class policies, expectations, helpful information and my contact information. I look forward to a great year!

**Guidelines and Expectations:** All Shull School students are expected to be respectful, responsible, safe, and prepared. Be kind to others and treat them the way you would like to be treated! Do not use inappropriate language, be sure to respect other students' space, and listen while others are speaking. As 8th graders, you are also expected to be a role model in the building. The same guidelines apply in my classroom.

Student Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**Consequences** will be given when classroom guidelines and expectations are violated. They may include, but are not limited to:

1. Verbal reminder
2. Detention (lunch OR after school)
3. Phone call to parent/guardian
4. Behavior referral to appropriate administrator

\*With consequences, there are always **rewards** for positive behavior!

Student Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**Supplies:** In order to be successful this school year, you will need to get organized.

- Reading notebooks will be provided for each student.
- Writing notebooks will be online! We will set them up in Google Classroom.
- Always be prepared with pencils/pens.
- Be sure to have your Chromebook **AND** charger for class.

\*NOT HAVING A CHROMEBOOK OR A CHARGER IS NOT AN EXCUSE FOR NOT COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS. THIS IS CONSIDERED UNPREPARED, AND IT WILL RESULT IN A ZERO.

\*You are responsible for your Chromebook and charger. Treat them with respect. If you are caught defacing or damaging the device in any way, it is an immediate write-up.

Student Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**Snacks/Beverages in the Classroom:** NO SNACKS are permitted in the classroom. I would like to keep this a bug-free zone. Water is permitted as long as it is sealed and placed on the floor while you are not drinking.

Student Initials\_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone Policy:** Cell phones are NOT allowed in the classroom. They are to be put on silent mode and placed into your assigned phone pouch. All research will be conducted using our school Chromebooks, so there is no need for cell phones.

\*If you are found using a cell phone during class, you will lose points on your participation grade. In addition, the following consequences will be given:

*First offense* - Verbal warning

*Second offense* - Phone Call home

*Third offense* - Lunch Detention will be assigned

Further violations will result in referral to the appropriate administrator.

Student Initials\_\_\_\_\_

**Absences/Tardies:** If you are absent, you are responsible for obtaining any missed work and submitting it during the following class period. The number of days you are absent is the allowed time you have to complete missing work.

Be on time for class.

- Once you've reached three lates, you will receive a phone call home.
- At six lates, you will receive a detention (lunch or after school) and a referral to your counselor.
- At nine lates, you will be referred to the appropriate administrator.

Student Initials\_\_\_\_\_

**Missing Assignments:** If you miss an assignment, you may complete it for a LATE grade. You will have FIVE days to complete the assignment. After five days, it will stay a zero. For every day that the assignment is late, you will lose 10 points.

Student Initials\_\_\_\_\_

**AI/Plagiarism Policy:** AI tools may only be used with prior approval from your teacher after a discussion about how you plan to use them. Any unapproved use of AI/any plagiarism will result

in a grade of zero. You are expected to maintain academic integrity in all of the work you turn in. Any violation of academic honesty will be subject to appropriate consequences.

- **Any assessment and/or assignment is subject to a verbal review with the teacher.** Be prepared to explain and discuss the content of your work, without the contributions or assistance of AI. If you can not adequately represent your work, it will be assumed AI was utilized as a replacement for your learning, and the consequences will be subject to the teacher's discretion.

Student Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**Homework:** Assignments will always be posted in the classroom; you are responsible for writing them down. Homework will be due the following class unless instructed otherwise. If you do not have your homework the day it is due, you will receive a zero for the assignment. The policy for late submissions, which was stated earlier in this document, will apply.

Student Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**Grading Policy:** Grading will be determined by scored tests/quizzes, projects, essays, class work, homework, and independent reading/writing journals.

- Assessments: 60%
- Class Work: 35%
- Homework: 5%

\*Parents should sign up for **Parent Portal** in order to keep up with assignments and grades.

This Year in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade...

**Reading:** It is important to bring your book to class every day in order to participate in Readers Workshop. Notebooks will be kept in the classroom. Be sure to choose a book that you are interested in! We will be working to enhance skills in reading both fiction and non-fiction. Class work assignments will incorporate your reading book and journal entries, so you should expect to be reading daily. Prepare to record any reactions, questions, and comments that you have about your book based on the skills we are working with each week.

*You will be responsible to sign out the book you have chosen.* There will be a "Check Out" Google Form in Google Classroom. Once you are done reading, please fill out the "Return Form" in Google Classroom. This will help me keep track of the books that are in our library!

Students are expected to keep the classroom library NEAT and ORGANIZED. All books are properly labeled; return them to their appropriate shelf after you have completed the "Return Form."

You will receive a daily Reading Participation grade during independent practice. If you are off task/disruptive/fake reading, you will lose points for each time this occurs.

Student Initials\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing:** We will be working with the Writers' Workshop Units in order to develop essays. This will be done in an extended amount of time (mostly during class time) and all essays **MUST** be turned in on time; they are counted as **test grades**.

Keep in mind that there will be a writing process. In cases where you must plan or map out your essays, you will receive credit for these assignments as well.

Daily writing entries will be counted as class work grades.

Student Initials\_\_\_\_\_

If you have any further questions or concerns...

**Contact Information:** Please feel free to contact me at (732) 367-6060 x26-328 or via email [sheamalone@paps.net](mailto:sheamalone@paps.net).

Thank you,

Miss Malone

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Return this document with the required initials and a parent or guardian's signature to earn a 100% on your first homework assignment!