

Mr. Jarvis  
ejarvis@slcusd.org  
<http://mrjarvis.net>

# Back to School Night



## Your Teacher

- Mr. Jarvis has been teaching over thirty years at elementary and middle school settings. He lives in SLO with his wife and eighteen-year-old son.

## Parent Communication and Online Resources

- The phone number here at Sinsheimer Elementary is **805-596-4088**.
- My email address is **ejarvis@slcusd.org**. E-Mail and ParentSquare are both excellent ways to get in touch with me.
- Frequent class updates, resources, a list of daily homework assignments, and class calendar and more are available at <http://mrjarvis.net>.
- **Google Classroom** (<https://classroom.google.com>) is where students will receive many of their assignments. All students currently have access and are using Google Classroom.
- All parents and guardians of sixth-grade students will receive “**The Friday Five**” via **ParentSquare**, a weekly newsletter containing important news and events involving sixth graders.



- Parents and guardians will receive ParentSquare “newsletters” from the **principal on Mondays, the PTA on Wednesdays, and the sixth-grade teachers and District Office on Fridays.**
- Students and parents may check assignment scores and absences using Aeries at <https://sanluiscoastal.aeries.net> .
- Assigned homework and major events will be listed on our “Class Calendar,” which may be found at <https://www.mrjarvis.net>
- Students may also log in to “Clever” at <https://clever.com/in/slcsud> for class and school resources (e.g, Quizlet, ST Math, Accelerated Reader etc.).

## **HOMEWORK**

- Students are expected to **read an average of thirty minutes each night** and complete one “**Reading Response Log**” entry each week. The reading response log will be completed in class and require students to document the progress they have made in their book and complete a short writing response to what they have read.
- Students will also be expected to complete **math practice assignments every Monday through Thursday evening.**
- Other work may occasionally need to be completed at home as well, but **thirty minutes of reading and math** will make up the **majority of the homework** that is assigned.
- Students are NOT to stay up late or spend an excessive amount of time on homework. Please notify me if your child is unable to complete a homework assignment in a “reasonable” amount of time.
- Homework assignments from my class will be posted on my class Website at <https://mrjarvis.net> under the “**Homework Calendar.**”
- Homework is meant to **reinforce** the **skills** learned in class; it is **NOT** intended to be a **source of frustration** for families. If a student is unable to complete an assignment, have him or her contact me so that we can arrange for them to get some help.



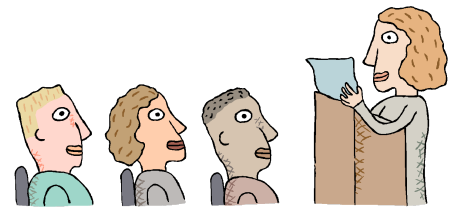
## STUDENT MATERIALS

- All students have access to a **Chromebook** while at school.
- Students are to have a **binder, a pen, pencil, independent reading book, and paper** with them daily.
- Earbuds are recommended, but may **ONLY** be worn for class activities.



## BEHAVIOR

- Our class expectations are based on six “**Keys to Success,**” which include **Honor Good Acts, Strive to Improve, Stop Harm and Blame, Find Trusted Guides, Offer Help, and Make Amends.**
- All students received a list of **class expectations**. A copy is available at [mrjarvis.net](http://mrjarvis.net).
- An individual **behavior contract** will be established for students who may be having on-going problems with their behavior
- Students will have the opportunity to receive **raffle tickets** for making **positive** choices. A raffle is conducted **every Friday**.
- Students who have trouble following the classroom expectations will experience the following sequence of consequences: **1) warning; 2) loss of recess; 3) restorative action plan.** The teacher reserves the right to skip sequences if the misbehavior is severe.
- Any behavior that has the **potential to harm** another student either physically or emotionally will cause that student to be **sent to the office regardless** if any **previous warnings** have been given.



## Reading

- **Independent reading of books** that are “just right” for your child’s ability level and responding to that literature in writing will make up a large portion of our overall reading program.



- Students are expected to complete **AT LEAST one book**, take an **Accelerated Reader Quiz** on it and complete the “**Independent Book Report**” that will be posted on Google Classroom. These reports may be turned in at any time, but I will be grading them on the following dates: **September 29<sup>th</sup>**, **November 2<sup>nd</sup>**, and **December 20<sup>th</sup>**.
- Students must complete **ONE official “Independent Book Report”** by each of the aforementioned due dates. Students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to read more. **For additional books read**, the student only needs to take an **Accelerated Reader Quiz** and **record the book in their book logs** that are posted on **Google Classroom**.
- In addition to reading independently, students will be **assigned reading material in class**. In-class reading will consist of the following four major reading units: **deep study of character**, **historical fiction book clubs**, **nonfiction**, and **social issues book clubs**.

## Writing

- Writing will be taught every day using the Lucy Calkins “Writer’s Workshop” model.. Students are currently writing narrative essays that focus on writing descriptive details. The writing styles that will be covered are **narrative**, **argumentative**, and **explanatory** (informational).
- Scoring rubrics for the three main genres of writing may be found at [www.mrjarvis.net](http://www.mrjarvis.net) in the Writing Resource section listed under “Resources.” Click [HERE](#) for a direct link.
- Grammar and mechanics will be reviewed on most days through the review of short practice exercises.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

- Sixth-grade social studies focuses on ancient civilizations and how these societies were cultivated. Students will be exposed to the complex dynamics that built these ancient civilizations. They will have the opportunity to analyze the numerous aspects that create cultures such as language, rituals, government structure, economics, religion, architecture, agriculture, irrigation, transportation, natural resources, and much more. Among the several civilizations that we will study over the course of the school year are



## **Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, the The Roman Republic, and Ancient China.**

- Fifth-grade social studies will focus on **United States history**. They will be learning about the **Pre-Columbian Americas, The Age of Exploration, Colonial America**, the events leading up to the **American Revolution, Westward Expansion**, and **The Constitution**.
- Social studies unit will require students to integrate their literacy skills through reading and the writing of responses related to the topics of study.

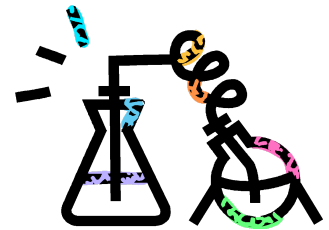
### **Math**

- Ms. Unemar will be teaching the sixth graders math using the CPM Math program. This will be your student's first look at middle school math
- Mr. Jarvis will be teaching the fifth graders math using the Bridges program, the adopted curriculum for grades K - 5.



### **Science**

- Students will be participating in hands-on activities as they learn about a variety of topics. These include but are not limited to the following: our **atmosphere**, the **water cycle**, **earth's place in the universe**, **Earth and human activity**, and **energy**



### **Grading**

- Grades for individual assignments will be entered in [Aeries](#) as follows:
  - 4 - Excels at Expectations
  - 3- Meets Grade Level Standards
  - 2- Approaches Expectations
  - 1- Needs More Time and Practice

### **FIELD TRIPS**

- The students will be going to Camp Alegra, near Cachuma Lake, from **January 23rd - 26th**. More information will be available as the trip approaches.



- Thanks to our PTA, additional field trips will be offered. More information will be provided later in the school year.
- More information about fifth-grade field trips will also be shared via our “Friday Five” as the planning information becomes available.

## **PROJECTS**

- Research projects will be assigned throughout the school year.
- Students wishing to extend their own knowledge and/or earn extra credit will be encouraged to complete independent research projects and share them with their peers by creating a Website or movie, giving a talk, building a model, writing a paper, etc.

## **Devices and Computers**

- Students all have access to Chromebooks in the classroom. These devices may only be used for school work unless special permission is granted.
- Chromebooks are monitored and protected by our Information and Technology Services department, but students are expected to use all electronic devices responsibly.



## **Innovation Lab**

- Our class will be utilizing our Innovation Lab or completing some sort of project that requires the use of technology skills on Tuesdays.
- The Sinsheimer Innovation lab now has an aide and will be available to students every Tuesday during lunch.



## **After-School Opportunities**

- Students will have the opportunity to participate in the following Sinsheimer sports teams: soccer, softball, baseball, flag football, and volleyball.
- A variety of clubs will be offered later in the school year. More information will be made available throughout the school year.



## **Specialty Schedules**

- PE - Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00 to 2:50 p.m.
- Music - Thursdays 11:10 to 12:10
- Library - Fridays from 9:15 to 9:55
- Techie Tuesdays/iInnovate - Tuesdays from 1:50 to 2:40

