



Dear Sixth Grade Parents,

I write this letter from Rudolf Steiner College during an intensive week designed for the sixth grade teacher. And though I've spent only a few days with your students last Spring I am looking forward to meeting every one of you and to spending your child's sixth grade year with them. Waldorf education offers academic, social and working opportunities for parents, students and teachers to interact. I do hope you are enjoying this summer and that you have some relaxation planned between now and the beginning of school.

This coming year is one of tremendous transformation for your child. Most will arrive still children and will finish the school year as long-limbed adolescents. The sixth grader has an increased interest in the world and most academic activities are aimed at conquering this outside world. Children at this age can be assertive, even aggressive in their relationships and in life. As these will forces wake up the students need the adults in their lives to provide strong, clear guidance. Students at this age need safe and meaningful but also challenging and exciting activities as their bodies and their morals seek to find strength.

We will study the real world using the tools of business math, geometry, mineralogy and physics and the very beginning concepts of algebra. History will take us from the late Middle Ages through the end of the Roman Empire. The student's writing composition, grammar, punctuation, etc will all take a step toward more coherent, conscious essays and letter writing. Writing tools are imperative for developing the ability to express all the powerful thoughts these young people will have this year.

To balance the rigorous academic life we will paint on a regular basis, read lots of books, practice the arts of speech, singing and recorder playing. My hope is to use the recorders to refresh our ability to read music notation and to learn new music. Once the music is learned on the recorders, singing the music is a small step away.

Although the year is so very full with plans, schedules and academics I want you to know that I do not come in with a plan that will overlay the class, but rather plan to bring a trunk full of academics and arts and that they will be applied according to what your children need from me, and from their social and academic lives. I will make myself available to parents and students alike to discuss issues and to help with academics.

We will see each other soon.

Susan Beck  
Sixth Grade

**Mountain Oak School**  
**Sixth Grade Supply List**

**INDIVIDUAL STUDENT SUPPLIES:**

1. Student dictionary which includes etymology (word derivation).
2. Student thesaurus
3. Ruler with centimeter and inches (metal is preferable)
4. Scissors
5. 3 Spiral bound notebooks
6. Student Daily Planner
7. High quality compass (Staedtler preferred).
8. Pencil sharpener (collects shavings)
9. White eraser

**CLASSROOM COMMUNITY SUPPLIES**

***Last Name A-L***

1. Bottle of Dr. Bronner's Liquid Soap
2. 1 pack - dozen - #2 pencils
3. Black fluid ink pens, good quality, 2 packages
4. Staples, 1 box

***Last Name M-Z***

1. Kitchen sponges (soft on both sides)
2. Black fluid ink pens, good quality, 2 packages
3. Masking tape, 1-1.5" wide
4. Copy paper, 1 ream

Thank you so much parents. There will be other needs as we move through the year too, so thank you in advance for all you do for your student.