



August - 2018

Dear Sixth Grader,

Welcome to the Baxter / Smith 6th grade team!! We hope your summer has been filled with exciting times... and, of course, some reading and math facts here and there!! We will be working as a team to teach you all subjects this year. You will have Mrs. Baxter for ELA (English Language Arts) and Social Studies, and you will have Mr. Smith for Math and Science. We are so excited to have you in our classes!

As you move from Richardson/Olmsted to the Middle School, there are many questions that students and parents have. We hope this letter will answer some of these questions and assist you in making a smooth transition to the *Easton Middle School!* ☺

Many things will be the same as in grade 5, but there are some big differences. The biggest change is...LOCKERS! You will receive a school issued combination lock on the first day of school. Although we will teach you how to open it on the first day- it would be a great idea to purchase one of your own or borrow one from someone and practice throughout August. Trust us- you will be happy on the first day of school!!

Lunch is also different. There are many more choices for lunch each day and you get to sit anywhere in the cafeteria. That's right- with your friends- not by homeroom

As stated above, you will be changing classes. In ELA, we will investigate various reading / writing genres while focusing on effective reading and writing skills and strategies. In social studies, we will review map/globe skills briefly then travel thousands of years back in time to discover ancient civilizations. In math, we will work with topics such as algebra, geometry, graphing, and measurement. In science, we will study earth, life and physical sciences and end the year with various health topics. MCAS prep is done throughout the year. We will also focus on organizational and study skills throughout the year. We are looking forward to a productive, successful year!

There will be a **working snack** each day. As it is a working snack, it should be something *quick and easy to eat*. Only healthy snacks will be permitted- you need food that is good for your growing mind!! (Please consider easily edible fruit or vegetables, a cheese stick, goldfish crackers, pretzels, cheez-its, or a granola bar.) A water bottle is allowed during snack.

We know you have been working hard on your SUMMER READING and any math work. During the first few days of school we will be reviewing these things. At that time, we will let you know about the book assessment. Don't worry- there will not be test on the first day of school! ☺

You will love 6th Grade...WE do!

Below, we have listed some supplies that will help you to get off to a great start in sixth grade. Please try to have all of these items in **by the first day of school**, if possible, by Monday at the latest. *Consider this your first homework assignment of the new school year!!* ***Some items may already have been purchased through the general supply order!**

<i>Amount Needed:</i>	<i>Item:</i>
1	<u>7-pocket expandable file (letter size)</u> Please have the pockets labeled / set up as follows by the first day of school: #1 (Homework) #2 (Reading) #3 (Writing) #4 (Math) #5 (Social Studies) #6 (Science) #7 (Extra)
1	1 1/2" Binder - with 5 dividers, a pkg. of reinforcers, and a BINDER 3-Ring Hole Punch . (It should attach to the binder rings!)
1	Crayon / pencil pouch or Zipper-bag <i>(No boxes, please.)</i>
2	Glue sticks
Lots!	Sharpened pencils (NO MECHANICAL PENCILS!!)
2	Highlighters (different colors)
1 package	College or wide-ruled filler paper
1	Handheld Pencil Sharpener...one that holds its shavings, please! 🗑️
1	Silent Reading Book (Any genre- age appropriate)
1	Box of crayons and / or colored pencils
1	Box of tissues
1	Container of Antibacterial wipes
Lots!	Chocolate (Not really, just checking to see if you are still reading! 🍫)
1	Pair of scissors
2	3-subject notebooks (Math and science)
1	1-subject notebook (Social Studies)
2	RED Pens - for correcting
1	Jumbo Book Cover (Stretchy - non stick)
0	Bad Attitudes
1	Awesome, hard-working, kind 6th grader... like you!

On the first day of school, we will be waiting for you outside of rooms 126 & 127 .

We can't wait to meet you!

Mrs. Baxter 🗑️ & Mr. Smith 🗑️

PARENTS: If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at:
jbaxter@easton.k12.ma.us or ricksmith@easton.k12.ma.us

We are looking forward to a great year together!

