Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to a new school year! I look forward to getting to know you as we embark on many adventures in English and Social Studies. This letter contains general information about our classes and a supplies list. I will post important information, including homework assignments, throughout the year on our class web page, so be sure to check the school web site often at www.hehms.us. Just follow the "Classes/ Homework" link under the English Department (for both English and Social Studies).

Textbooks and Workbooks:

Students access both their English McGraw-Hill Study Sync literature course and History Alive! Ancient Civilizations Social Studies textbook online. For English, the students will receive login instructions in class. Students will also be issued accompanying workbooks for each of the three English units. The Social Studies textbook is accessed through the Google Drive class link. I will also post individual chapter links on the class web site under “Homework.” Students receive a single consumable interactive notebook for Social Studies as well. Students are responsible for bringing the English and Social Studies workbooks to class each day.

Homework:

Sixth grade students should expect approximately twenty minutes of homework per subject each day. This excludes reading for book reports. Assignments such as IXL grammar and book reports require effective time management skills, which can be a learning process for some -- good skills to master before high school!

Further Information:

Further information, such as grading policies, classroom procedures, and absence policies will be discussed with the students in class and with the parents at Back to School Night on Wednesday, August 16th. If you are unable to attend Back to School Night this Wednesday, no worries! I will send the information home with your child for you to discuss together.

Teacher Contact

If you have any questions or concerns, the best way to reach me is via email: smoffat@smusd.us. I do my best to respond to all emails within 24 hours. If you would like to meet personally, my conference period is by appointment from 1:05 – 1:55. If needed, I can also meet during the lunch period. For emergencies, please call the school office at 299-7060 and they will connect you to the classroom.
Supplies:

The following supplies are needed each day in English and Social Studies:

- simple 2\" - 3\" 3-ring binder with dividers (can be used for all 4 core classes)
- Please refrain from large "Trapper Keeper" style binder systems as work tends to get "lost" in them. Also, if the binder has no inside pockets, have an organized system for quick homework storage and retrieval – such as dedicated homework folders.
- pencil case
- blue and/or black ballpoint pens
- red ballpoint pens
- highlighters
- 2 pre-sharpened #2 wood pencils (Plus more to resupply throughout the year).
- hand-held self-contained pencil sharpener
- erasers (such as Staedtler latex free)
- loose college-ruled notebook filler paper (8.5\" x 11\")
- 1 ultra-fine point black Sharpie marker (Recommend 5-6 for the year)
- 1 fine point black Sharpie marker (Recommend 3-4 for the year)
- white correcting tape (optional)
- Binder Reminder (provided by school)
- Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) book
- colored pencils (keep at home)

Please put needed daily supplies in your binder or pencil case and keep extra supplies at home (or in locker) for homework and project use and for replenishing as needed.

Although not technically part of school supplies, we would greatly appreciate any donations of:

- Kleenex boxes
- Cleaning or baby wipes

If you’re able to donate these items, we’d be really grateful -- they help keep our classroom germ free! Thank you in advance for your support!