Dear Families,

Welcome to your sixth grade Humanities classes!  We are excited about our plans this year, and we look forward to working with you. This year we hope to support our students’ development as critical readers, writers, and thinkers through multiple opportunities for them to engage with a variety of texts and resources. By the end of this school year, our students will be thinking as students of the humanities and making connections between reading, writing, music, art, history, and geography.

In this course, students will engage in multiple modes of learning, including Project-Based Learning. Furthermore, they will have access to a classroom library of grade-appropriate texts to further their engagement as readers and writers as well as mentor texts that align with each six weeks unit. GT Humanities students will engage in a rigorous curriculum that will hone their research and presentation skills and will challenge students in their reading, writing, and social studies blocks. Students may have the same teacher for three sections (reading, writing, and social studies), or they may have a separate social studies teacher, but rest assured that the Humanities curriculum is aligned, and students will see connections across these content areas.

Below is an outline of our learning for this school year.

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| **1st Six Weeks: Culture of Me**   * Basics of reading and writing workshop * Reading: fiction and poetry * Writing: narrative poetry * Social Studies: World Cultures | **2nd Six Weeks: North American Culture Exhibition**   * Reading and Writing: informational presentations * Social Studies: North America | **3rd Six Weeks: South America Sustainable Solutions**   * Reading: nonfiction and informational texts * Writing: informational research essay * Social Studies: South America |
| **4th Six Weeks: Plan a European Class Trip**   * Reading: argumentative texts and research * Writing: argumentative pieces * Social Studies: Europe | **5th Six Weeks: Asia and the Giver**   * Literary analysis of *The Giver* * Social Studies: Asia, Russia, and China | **6th Six Weeks: Genius Hour**   * Reading and Writing: Genius Hour * Social Studies: Oceania, Australia, and Africa |

We encourage you to speak with your students about what they are reading, writing, and learning in class. Please be sure to review your student’s performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you this year!

Respectfully,

EMS ISD 6th Grade GT Humanities Teachers