

## 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE ORIENTATION - IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

June 10th 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the SOF family! We are thrilled that your child has become part of our learning community, and we are all looking forward to a terrific year. As a team, we love teaching 6<sup>th</sup> grade for many reasons, but we especially appreciate the 6<sup>th</sup> grade enthusiasm for learning and the significant academic progress students make at this age. We value our school and are thrilled that you chose SOF.

### **The Four Pillars**

The four pillars represent the major values in the SOF community. We work together throughout the year to instill strong work habits in our students, encourage them to become responsible for their own learning, push their thinking deeper, and create a nurturing academic environment. Throughout your child's education at SOF we'll encourage these goals through our community values, which we call the 4 pillars.

This letter contains some important materials to help you and your child prepare for the first day of school. Please find and review:

1. Supply List
2. Important SOF Policies
3. School Directory
4. Summer Homework, due: 9/7




We're excited to get to know you and your child this year. - *Your SOF 6th Grade Team*

**“THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE FOR IT.”  
- RALPH WALDO EMERSON**



# 1. SUPPLY LIST

Please make sure your child comes prepared on the first day of school with the following supplies. We understand it is a lengthy list; however, it will last your child all year! :) All the supplies labeled “teachers will collect” can be combined into a single bag to turn in. We appreciate your contributions to our communal supplies.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 Composition Notebooks   | 3 for Humanities<br>2 for Science<br>1 for Math<br>1 for Health | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | 3 Rolls of paper towels<br>2 Boxes of Tissues   | All Classes   | Teachers will collect.  |
| 1 Spiral Notebook   | 1 for Math  | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | 1 box of pre-sharpened pencils, 1 Roll of clear packing tape, 1 Box of Ziploc Bags (gallon), 1 Container disinfecting wipes | ART   | Teachers will collect.  |
| 3 Sturdy Pocket Folders   | Science<br>Math<br>Humanities                                   | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | 1 Sketchbook (8.5"x11" or 6"x9" nothing bigger)   | ART   | Teachers will collect.  |
| Highlighters (at least 4 colors)  | All classes   | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | Glue Stick  | All classes   | Teachers will collect   |
| 1 pack of colored pencils   | All classes   | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | Rolls of tape for class tape dispensers   | All classes   | Teachers will collect   |
| Pens and Pencils to last all year <b>and a manual pencil sharpener.</b> * | All classes   | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | 4 packs Post-its (all sizes are fine)   | Humanities  | Teachers will collect   |
| 2 Master Locks  | 1 for Gym<br>1 for Locker                                       | Keep in BACKPACK                                      | Composition Notebook  | Spiral Notebook   | Tape Rolls  |
| Sneakers, shorts, sweatpants  | Gym   | Backpack, GYM Days-<br>[not at the start of the year] |                                        |  |  |

\* Students are expected to provide their own pens and pencils in middle school.

**We always appreciate the following extra supplies, since we frequently run out of each during the school year.**

**All classes:** Paper towels, tissues, printer paper, Loose-leaf paper, white board markers and erasers, tape rolls, post-its (any size)

**Art:** Sharpies (black or color), Erasers, liquid hand soap and binder clips

## **2. POLICIES**

*We have very high expectations for all of our students. While the SOF family handbook lays out many of these expectations in great detail (you'll receive a copy in September), below we have provided an outline of some key points that we feel are essential to the success of your child this year.*

### **Attendance Policy**

Class time is precious. Please consider the school calendar when planning doctor's appointments, vacations, and other family obligations and activities. When your student is absent s/he is responsible for making up all missed work. If a student is late, s/he should sign in on the clipboards by the elevator. Students should attend school every day, except in the event of illness or a family emergency. When your child is out, he or she will need a note explaining his or her absence. **They can bring the note to Maria Vasquez in the main office or email her at [MVasquez47@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:MVasquez47@schools.nyc.gov).**

### **Homework Policy**

Homework is an essential component to a middle-school student's academic success. Students are provided planners for recording daily homework assignments. In addition, teachers post grades and assignments on [PupilPath.com](http://PupilPath.com), an online grading system that all teachers utilize at the school. You and your child will be given a free account so that you can monitor your child's grades. If an assignment is incomplete or missing, your student will be expected to complete it by the next day of school.

### **Electronic Devices**

We understand the need in today's world for your child to have a cell phone and SOF will allow students to carry cell phones. However, students may only have their cell phones on before school, during lunch, and after school. Cell phones that ring in class **WILL BE CONFISCATED** and returned at the teacher's convenience. If you need to reach your child in an emergency, please call the main office at extension 1004, 1003 or 1001 and the office will get a message to your child. All other electronic devices (iPods, game boys, etc.) are completely prohibited in classrooms. Any electronic toys or games that are used or seen in classrooms will be confiscated by a teacher. School of the Future is not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones or electronics.

**Elevator Policy.** The use of elevators is restricted to students with an elevator pass. A student that has a valid medical reason can obtain an elevator pass from the main office with a doctor's note. All other students should take the stairs so that the elevator does not become over crowded. Waiting for the elevator does not excuse a student from being late to class.

## **3. SOF 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE DIRECTORY**

| <u>Name</u>        | <u>Role</u>               | <u>Room</u> | <u>Email</u>   |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------|--|
| Jaimee Rutman      | Parent Coordinator        | 100         | <a href="mailto:jrutman@sof.edu">jrutman@sof.edu</a>                   |
| Stacy Goldstein    | Principal                 | 105         | <a href="mailto:sgoldstein@sof.edu">sgoldstein@sof.edu</a>             |
| Samantha Shapiro   | Guidance Counselor        | 500A        | <a href="mailto:sshapiro@sof.edu">sshapiro@sof.edu</a>                 |
| Peirs Droms-Nakano | Math                      | 300         | <a href="mailto:pdroms@sof.edu">pdroms@sof.edu</a>                     |
| Alexandra Stumpf   | Humanities                | 303         | <a href="mailto:astumpf@sof.edu">astumpf@sof.edu</a>                   |
| Victoria Williams  | Humanities                | 301         | <a href="mailto:vpatch@sof.edu">vpatch@sof.edu</a>                     |
| Matt Steiniger     | Science / Team Leader     | 302         | <a href="mailto:matt@sof.edu">matt@sof.edu</a>                         |
| Dahlia Roberts     | Learning Specialist       | 355         | <a href="mailto:droberts@sof.edu">droberts@sof.edu</a>                 |
| Rachelle Anthes    | Learning Specialist       | 355         | <a href="mailto:ranthes@sof.edu">ranthes@sof.edu</a>                   |
| Faithann Brown     | Learning Specialist (D75) | 901         | <a href="mailto:fbrown13@schools.nyc.gov">fbrown13@schools.nyc.gov</a> |
| Janine Kelly       | Art                       | 101         | <a href="mailto:aumlaxmi@hotmail.com">aumlaxmi@hotmail.com</a>         |
| Coach Ron          | Gym                       | Gym         | <a href="mailto:rvarrichio@sof.edu">rvarrichio@sof.edu</a>             |

## ***Summer Reading Homework!***

Welcome to 6<sup>h</sup> grade!! We're excited for a year of reading, writing, and fun. In order to be best prepared for 6th grade, you'll need to **read at least 5 books** over the summer. Your summer homework also requires:

### **1. A book log**

- a. Make sure to keep an accurate log of when you start and finish books. Have a parent or guardian sign your log before turning it in.

### **2. Writing about your favorite book**

- a. Make sure to follow instructions for the questions! This will help your teachers get to know you as a reader, writer, and thinker.

### **3. Science Exploration: Read an article of your choice from Science World magazine**

- a. Choose what looks most interesting to you! No written assignment, but be prepared to discuss during Science class. Feel like exploring more than just one article? Go for it!

Lost your magazine? Never got one?

→ Digital copy here: <https://scienceworld.scholastic.com/issues/2018-19/032519.html>

→ password: squirrelpower

This packet is your first grade for next year. It is due **Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

If you have questions about the homework, please contact one of the teachers listed below. Enjoy your summer and see you in September.

#### Humanities Team:

Victoria Williams  
Alexandra Stumpf  
Rachelle Anthes

vpatch@sof.edu  
[astumpf@sof.edu](mailto:astumpf@sof.edu)  
ranthes@sof.edu

#### Science Team:

Matt Steiniger      matt@sof.edu  
Dahlia Roberts      droberts@sof.edu

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Please tear off and turn in to your Humanities teacher on Friday, Sept. 6, 2019.

**Book suggestions:** These are books that many 6th graders enjoy; you DO NOT have to read these particular books. Visit your local library to choose books that appeal to YOU! If you know your reading level, try to pick a book on that level.

**Realistic Fiction:**

- ★ Cleo Edison Oliver: Playground Millionaire by Sundee T. Fraizer (R)
- ★ Recess! by Matthew & Jennifer Holm (Q/R)
- ★ The Great Wall of Lucy Wu by Wendy Wan-Long Shang (S)
- ★ The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Perez (T)
- ★ Wonder + Auggie & Me by R.J. Palacio (U)
- ★ The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (T/U)
- ★ Ahimsa by Supriya Kelkar (U)
- ★ Gaither Sisters Series by Rita Williams Garcia (W)
- ★ The Great Greene Heist by Varian Johnson (X)

**Great authors:** Jacqueline Woodson, Jerry Spinelli, Louis Sachar, Mike Lupica, Jewel Parker Rhodes, Kwame Alexander, Cynthia Lord, James Patterson, Stuart Gibbs (YA)

**Fantasy and Adventure:**

- ★ Spiderwick Chronicles (Q)
- ★ Emily Roda Books ( Deltora Quest, Rowan of Rin) (S)
- ★ Goosebumps series by RL Stine (S)
- ★ *I Survived* series
- ★ Books by Erin Hunter (Seekers, Warriors, Survivors) (V)
- ★ Books by Rick Riordan (Percy Jackson, Heroes of Olympus, Kane Chronicles, Trials of Apollo) (V+)
- ★ The Harry Potter Series (V+)
- ★ Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins (V+)
- ★ City of Ember Series (W)
- ★ The Land of Stories Series (UVW)
- ★ Breadcrumbs (U)
- ★ Galaxy Games Series by Greg Fishbone (V)
- ★ Mr. Lemoncello’s Library series (V)

**Narrative Nonfiction Titles:**

- ★ George Washington, Spymaster by Thomas B. Allen
- ★ Escape: The Story of the Great Houdini
- ★ *Shipwrecked!: The True Adventures of a Japanese Boy* by Rhoda Blumberg
- ★ *Sniffer Dogs: How Dogs (and Their Noses) Save the World* by Nancy Castaldoz
- ★ *Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition* by Margot Lee Shetterly
- ★ *Cleopatra Rules!* By Vicky Alvear Shectar

**Book Log:**

| Book # | Title | Author | Start Date | End Date |
|--------|-------|--------|------------|----------|
| 1.     |       |        |            |          |
| 2.     |       |        |            |          |
| 3.     |       |        |            |          |
| 4.     |       |        |            |          |



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**Part 2: THEME :** What **lesson** is the author teaching readers about life or the world? How do you know?

- Make sure to use specific examples from the text to prove your idea.

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