Dear Parents and Students,

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| Welcome to the 8th Grade!!  I am delighted to have the opportunity to work with you this year.  This is an exciting year as we prepare students to move into high school; hence, expectations of students will be rigorous.  My goal is that we all work together to have a successful year.  This year in Language Arts we will be studying elements of literature through the following theme based units:   * Unit 1: Journeys * Unit 2: Rights and Responsibilities * Unit 3: Risking It All * Unit 4: The Power of Language * Unit 5: Social Justice   In order for students to be prepared for class I ask that students have :   * 1 inch binder with the following 5 tabbed sections:   1. Focus   2. Literary terms   3. Daily Activities   4. Stems   5. Graded Work * Loose Leaf Paper in the Binder * Single Subject Composition Book * Pencils * Blue or Black pens * Highlighter   Class Expectations   * Follow all district and school rules in the code of conduct. * Come to class each day prepared with necessary materials and a positive attitude. * Begin working on your Focus activity quietly upon entering class * Be respectful of yourself, your classmates, and your teacher at all times. * It is vital that you label ALL of your work with your first AND last name. * All work must be turned in on time to receive full credit. Points will be deducted for late work.  If a student is in class, there is typically not an acceptable excuse for not turning work in on time. * When absent, it is the responsibility of the student to get any missed work and should be turned in ASAP.  Students can find most assignments on my website [www.riccisbengals.weebly.com](http://www.riccisbengals.weebly.com) * Students should have their agenda book in class each day to record assignments and important information.  The agenda will be used for a hall pass.  Students will not be allowed to leave the classroom without the agenda. * If you are not in your seat when the bell rings, you will be marked TARDY.  This is your verbal warning.  A second tardy will result in lunch detention. The third tardy is a phone call home.  Any future tardy will result in administrative referral.   Grading System  Tests/Projects = 35%; Quizzes = 30%; Classwork = 25%; and Homework = 10%.  \*I update Power Schools as frequently as time allows.  FVMS/WCPSS Grading Scale  A = 90–100              B = 80–89               C = 70-79              D = 60-69              F = Below 60  Parents, I encourage students to be an advocate for themselves as this will be skill they will need as they move into adulthood.  However, please feel free to contact me if you have questions by email at [lbricci@wcpss.net](mailto:lbricci@wcpss.net) or call the school at (919)557-2727 to leave a message.  I will respond within 24 hours.  Let’s work together to achieve success!!  Thank you for your support! |