Dear 6th Grade Arctic Wolves Families,

Welcome to 6th grade Social Studies class and to Wendell Middle School! My name is Kerry Ann Mootoo and I am very excited about the upcoming 2016-2017 school year. I am starting my sixth year of teaching and my middle school career this year at Wendell Middle School. I have previously taught fifth and fourth grade at Carver Elementary. I am originally from Trinidad, but grew up here in North Carolina. I attended school at Carver Elementary, East Wake Middle School, and East Wake High School. I have a degree in Childhood Development with a K-6 Licensure. I have always loved working with older students, and I am willing to do what it takes to make sure that we all have a successful year. There are a few things that I wanted to go over with you before the school year begins so that you are aware of my classroom policies/procedures.

**Classroom Behavior Expectations:** The behavior expectations are the same across the board on our team. Because of this, there are not many of them, but we expect all students to follow them in order for instructional time to run smoothly. Our 6th grade expectations are:  
(As a side note, food, drinks & gum are not permitted in class. However, students may have a sealed water bottle with them in class.)

Be Ready to EXCEL Every Day!

**Engage:** Meet and Greet at the door.

**X-plore:** Complete the warm-up, Good Things share out

**Communicate:** Affirmations and Teaching.

**Empower:** You show me what you’ve learned!

**Launch:** Review of the day and head on to next class period.

**Be responsible** for yourself and your actions

**Be respectful** of yourself, other classmates, and adults around you

**Be prepared** for class with all materials and ready to learn

**Be accountable** to yourself, your classmates and Ms. Mootoo

**Be on time** for class and on task when class starts

**Be a leader -** Set an example for others.

**Homework:** Homework is 10% of your grade. Sometimes homework will be given. It is expected that students will complete their homework to be prepared for class. Students will record their homework in their agendas daily and will be checked. 

**Grades**: Assignments, quizzes, projects, and tests are a way for me, as a teacher, to measure student achievement. They help me to see whether or not a student is learning what they need to know. Students are expected to turn in **ALL** work on the due date.

My grading scale is as follows:

A…… 90-100

B…… 80-89

C….. 70-79

D….. 60-59

F….. < 59

**My percentage scale is as follows:**

Formative Assessments (Homework, Exit tickets, classwork, etc) 10%

Minor Assessments (Quizzes, Activities, etc) 35%

Major Assessments (Tests, Projects, Essays, etc.) 55%

**Late Work, Make-Up Work, & Extra Help**: You are expected to turn all work in on time. All missing assignments are due within 10 days of the original due date, and will not be accepted after that, unless the student is absent. The student will have one day for each absence to make up each assignment missed. The original grade will be on the assignment to show what the student could have made, but the actual grade will be circled. A working lunch may be assigned so the student can finish their work. In the case of an illness or injury special consideration will be given.

**\* Retest Procedures:**

**Late Penalties**

1 Day late- 10% off

2-5 Days late- 20% off

6-10 Days Late- 40% off

Students who do not pass a test will have an opportunity to retest provided they have completed missing work associated with the unit and/or made test corrections within two weeks of the original test date.

**\*Teacher Help:** I am available on Thursdays after school from 3:15 p.m. 4:15 p.m. for extra help. **Please notify me if your child will be attending 24 hours in advance by phone call, signed parent note, permission form, or e-mail.**

**Communication:** Please know that I firmly believe that we are partners, working together to ensure that your child has a successful year in my class. Please don’t ever hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns and know that I will do the same. See attached card with contact information.

**6th Grade Social Studies Curriculum**: In 6th grade Social Studies we follow the North Carolina Essential Standards and will cover Ancient World History-1450. This is a survey class and we will move at a rigorous pace. More importantly during this study, students will learn to recognize and interpret the “lessons of history;” those transferable understandings that are supported throughout time by recurring themes and issues.

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| Quarter 1 | Weeks 1-2: Focus on the 5 Themes of Geography  Weeks 3-9: Focus on Geography (physical features, modifications and adaptations, landforms) |
| Quarter 2 | Week 1-4: Religion  Week 5-9: Achievement |
| Quarter 3 | Week 1-5: Political and Government Structures  Week 6-9: Economic Structures |
| Quarter 4 | Week 1-2: Social Structures  Week 3-4: Decline of Civilizations  Week 4-9: Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation |

To confirm you have received and read the class syllabus, please cut off, sign, and send back the bottom of this sheet by Friday, September 2nd, 2016!

Thank you,

Ms. Kerry Ann Mootoo

[kmootoo@wcpss.net](mailto:kmootoo@wcpss.net)

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I have read and understand the syllabus that will be used in Ms. Mootoo’s social studies classroom. I will e-mail with any questions or concerns if needed.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_