Welcome to 7TH Grade Smithton Middle School ARTS

{2018-2019 Class Syllabus}

Mrs. Lauren Dotson • Room: Trailer E • ldotson@cpsk12.org • 573.214.3260 ext. 75708

This course will introduce students to a variety of speech and theatre topics which will include theatre etiquette, pantomime, voice, characterization, movement, script reading, improvisation, technical theatre jobs, theatre history and public speaking. At the end of the course, students will present to the class a memorized acting piece.

In this class you will...
- Review and practice proper audience etiquette.
- Review and Practice elements of public speaking.
- Review and further develop pantomime skills.
- Review and further develop improvisational skills.
- Develop characters for memorized performances.
- Rehearse and present plays geared for kids.
- Create and participate in puppet theater.

Class Assignments:
- Daily Participation • Memorized Storytelling • Favorite Actor Presentation • Class Rehearsal • Children’s Theater Presentation • Puppet • A Group Pantomime to Music

Classroom Expectations:
We follow all SMS guidelines for classroom expectations. Students will also follow the BIST behavioral plan that is in place at SMS. In addition, students will be expected to follow the DRAMA expectations listed below:

Demonstrate control of your body so no one gets hurt. Be Safe!
Respect your Peers and your teacher. Keep it positive!
Always try your best! Be responsible for your own learning!
Maintain a clean classroom. Help pick up during and the end of class.
Audience Etiquette which means politely watch, listen, and learn!

NO Gum, Food, Candy, And Non-Water Drinks

Materials needed:
- Notebook Paper
- A Pocket Folder
- Pencil / Pen
- Highlighter
- Supplies for Puppet

Grading:
Most of the student grading will come from their participation in the lessons. Each day students will practice theater concepts. Students will earn 15 points each day. 5 points of this goes towards participation of in the daily warm up activity. Sometimes warm ups are written, but most of the time it will be a physical activity. The other 10 points come from participation in the lesson geared activities. These activities could include, but are not limited to reading, games, rehearsal, team building, puppet construction, and discussions.

There are also projects which require students to put in extra time at home. Examples of this include a group pantomime assignment, memorizing various performance pieces, and creating and rehearsing with their puppets.

A Little Something About the Teacher:
I have taught Speech and Theater for 12 years, 11 of which were for CPS. I am a native of Columbia. In 2000 I graduated from Hickman High School. Go Kewpies! I attended Missouri State University in Springfield, MO where I graduated with a B.S. in Speech and Theatre Education. I also have a Masters in Curriculum Instruction. I hope to spread my joy of Speech and Theatre to each student who walks through my door.