

June 13, 2018

Dear Sixth Grade Environmental Science Academy Students and Families,

Welcome to the Environmental Science Academy at Walter Reed Middle School! We are looking forward to meeting you. Sixth grade is an exciting new step in your education and we, your academic teachers, would like to give you a head start to having a great new school year!

School begins August 14. Until then, we hope you have a fun and relaxing summer vacation. We encourage you to prepare for the new school year by considering your impact on the environment. Take the time to recycle, turn off lights and water that you aren't using, and think of ways that you can encourage others around you to conserve our precious resources. Remember, D.O.T. – Do One Thing – Commit to doing at least one thing to make your corner of the world a better place.

We would also like you to spend time this summer preparing your mind for the new school year. Ms. DeSimone, your Math/Science teacher, wants you to start school with a solid understanding of math facts. Make sure to have your multiplication table memorized before the summer is over. Ms. Tomlinson, your English/History teacher, is encouraging you to read, read, and read some more! This year, we will be participating in the [Battle of the Books](#) competition, in which several middle schools will contend for the prize in a multi-round trivia contest. You can get a head start for [Battle of the Books](#) by choosing at least three books from the reading list. Read them, enjoy them, and be ready to do some lessons on them in your English class.

Be sure to visit our school's website, www.reedms.com where you will find links to our school library's website, [the Battle of the Books reading list](#), and our own [Friends of Environmental Science Academy](#) website. These will help keep you updated on upcoming events and give you an idea of what you can look forward to in the new school year.

For back to school shopping, we've attached a supply list to help you start the year off right. We believe that being organized and well prepared for school is the first step towards a successful year. Take advantage of the sales in late July and August to get the best deals.

Have a great summer, and we look forward to meeting you at the 6th Grade Orientation on August 8th. Please reserve the date and bring your family. Everyone is invited! Let's have a terrific start to a successful school year!

Ms. DeSimone & Ms. Tomlinson

Environmental Science Academy 6th Grade Student Supply List 2018-2019

Studies show that students who organize their supplies are more prepared, less stressed, and perform better in school, so take advantage of those summertime back-to-school sales and get stocked up for a terrific start to middle school!

- Walter Reed Agenda Book (required for all students – provided at orientation)
- 4 spiral notebooks (2 for math, 2 for science)
- 4 college-ruled composition books (2 for English, 2 for History)
- Color-coded pocket folders for each class (One side for papers/work to take home, one side to bring back completed to school)
- Pencils (traditional or mechanical), sharpener with case or extra led as needed.
 - Erasers
 - Blue or black ballpoint pens
 - Red/multicolored pens (for correcting)
 - Ruler, with both standard and metric units
 - Pencil case to hold pencils, pens, etc.
- Colored pencils - 8 to 12 colors
- Highlighters

- Large supply of college ruled notebook paper
- Graph paper, 1/4"
- Glue Sticks
- "Post-It" or other adhesive notes
- Backpack
- Calculator
- Pocket dictionary/thesaurus
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scissors (no point)
- Index cards
- Personal pencil sharpener (small)/Refills of lead for mechanical pencils
- Personal package of tissues
- 3-ring binder w/ dividers (optional)
 - USB flash drive
 - Mini Stapler w/ Staples
 - Please note that liquid white out and permanent markers are NOT allowed at school.
 - Manipulative toys such as fidget spinners or Rubik's Cubes, as well as devices such as smartphones can cause a distraction and are NOT allowed out during instructional time.

Reed Library News

One of the best features of Reed is our library, in my humble opinion. Make sure you find your way there when school starts. We are open at nutrition, lunch, and after school from 3:00- 4:00 pm each day (except Tuesdays). As your librarian, I'm encouraging you to spend your summer **READING!!!** It's a perfect way to beat the heat and explore new worlds. If you don't know what to read, check out the books on the [Battle of the Books](#) list. The books range a wide array of topics as well as maturity levels. Have your parents look over the longer list with the summaries to make sure the book is appropriate for you.

Besides being a librarian, I'm also an English teacher. So I'm going to encourage you to also write during the summer. During the first week back at school, I'm going to have a prize for the first 30 students who bring me a character sketch of their favorite character (or villain) from your summer reading. Your character sketch should be 1-2 pages in length and address the following:

- Your name, grade, & English Teacher's name
- Name of character you selected as a title for your writing
- Title of Book & Author
- Describe the character
- Select a word or phrase that best describes the character & explain why. Give a few examples from the story to support your ideas.
- Compare the character to another character from a **DIFFERENT** book, TV show, or movie. Explain why you think they are alike.
- Why you liked this character.

I'll be accepting entries during nutrition, lunch, and after school during the first week of school.

Good Luck,

Tiffany Federico, Reed Librarian

Latin Enrichment

Salve! This means *Hello* or *Welcome* and is the root of the English word *Salutations*. It is the very first word my Latin students learn as I greet them with it each day. I have taught Walter Reed Middle School's Latin class for the last 7 years. Traditionally Latin has been offered to the IHP and Humanities Academy students. These academies seemed most likely to benefit from language instruction. However, I believe other Academy students would also gain a lot from studying Latin as well. [Click here to read more!](#)

Vale,

Ms. Tomlinson

Note: if you would like your child to be considered for the Latin enrichment class, please respond to this email with name of child, "Latin" as the subject line. Thank you!

6th Grade/New Student Orientation Wednesday August 8, 2018

Orientation will begin with a 20 minute presentation in the school auditorium so please be prompt (**Arrive on time at either 9 AM or 3 PM**). Come meet other students, parents, and teachers in the Environmental Science Academy before school officially begins on August 14th. You will be able to tour the campus and also purchase P.E. uniforms and school clothing conforming to our [school dress code policy](#). Come get your textbooks, school photo ID (will be your yearbook picture), and your assigned locker. Don't forget to try out your locker combination! Tentative class schedules will be available. Plan to spend 1 to 1 ½ hours on campus.

Please come at the time designated below:

9 AM: Last Names A – H

12 Noon: Last Names I - P

3 PM: Last Names Q - Z

Reed Network News (RNN)

Stay informed! We encourage you to sign up for the weekly Reed Network News (RNN). Sign up at: <http://reedms.com/subscribe-to-reed-network-news/>

Meal Applications 2018-2019

During summer break the Application for Meal Benefits will be mailed to your household. We strongly urge every Reed family to complete the Meal Application, as this establishes our eligibility for much needed federal dollars for our school. You can also apply online **Beginning July 1st**: <https://www.myschoolapps.com>.

Parent Center

Our Parent Center Coordinator Myriam Arechiga will be available at the 6th Grade/New Student Orientation for any parent who may need extra help in Spanish. She is also available all school days between 8 AM and 11:30 AM in Room 106. Myriam's email is mx2648@lausd.net.

Carpool Sign-Up

If you are interested in forming a carpool with other Reed families, you can sign up here:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeA4x1dHDNUowXP8qOAUqi3hqTZMu3cc5v1MGqQjKS VXt3kvg/viewform>

First Day of School Tuesday August 14, 2018

Student names and homeroom assignments will be posted at every entrance. All Reed students are expected to be in their seats, in their homerooms, no later than 8 AM. Dress code is enforced starting first day of school (please see our school website, www.reedms.com, for [dress code policy](#)).

If for any reason your plans have changed, and your child is no longer attending Reed next August, please tell us as soon as possible: djv4258@lausd.net.

Thank you,

Debbie Vodhanel

SLC Office

Walter Reed Middle School

818-487-7600