MRS. DOYLE

JR. HIGH PHILOSOPHY

What do you THINK?
T.H.I.N.K – Thoughtful, Helpful, Inquisitive, Necessary, Kind

We are all stories, in the end.

CONTACT ME

My website is available under the Academics tab of the JA secondary website
adoyle@jajags.com*

* I typically respond to email within 24 hours.
If you need emergency help on an assignment,
I recommend re-checking my website and asking your classmates first, but I will try to help if I see your question in time.

OFFICE HOURS

AM – 7:30 – 8:15 (M, T, Th)
* in the LIBRARY
PM – 3:20 – 3:55 (M-Th)
* in rm 139

ON THE WEB

In English, we use a few supplementary websites:

- NotedIn for grammar
- Vocabulary.com for vocabulary
- TurnItIn for GOAL Fair

RULES AND POLICIES

GRADERS

Grades in English are weighted. You can check your grades at any time using Infinite Campus

40% Papers
30% Homework & Projects
30% Tests & Quizzes

LATE WORK & RETAKES

HOMEWORK Late homework is accepted for 50% of the original score. (See back page for more info)
TESTS & QUIZZES Tests scoring below 85% can be redone for a chance at a higher score after a conference with Mrs. Doyle.

TECHNOLOGY

Be sure to check Google Classroom daily for assignment resources and reminders and announcements about assignments and other class activities.

- We have a 1:1 policy for technology. Students are expected to supply their own devices; we have a limited number of spare Chromebooks in case of forgotten or uncharged devices. Students found to be off-task forfeit technology privileges and will work by hand for the day.
- Cell phones will be placed in Phone Jail daily. Devices discovered not in phone jail will be sent to the office.

MATERIAL

Middle School is an excellent time for building organizational strategies & habits. Bringing the following tools to class daily will help keep you organized:

- Planner (supplied by JA)
- Loose leaf paper (college rule)
- 1”-2” Binder for ELA notes or returned work
- Spiral Notebook for daily Warm-Ups
- Varied colors of pens, pencils, & highlighters
- Sticky Notes
WHAT TO EXPECT IN THIS CLASS

This class can be really fun if you are willing to come prepared and follow directions. As a teacher, I believe that each student’s story is important, and I want to give them access to others’ stories and words to tell their own. This means that I expect participation, and I expect respectful listening when others are sharing. I want my students know they are loved and that they matter, and I will not tolerate behavior that makes them feel insignificant or unsafe (this means distracting behavior, rude comments, not taking each other or me seriously). I recognize that English might not be your cup of tea, but it can still be worth—while if students are willing to listen and have a good attitude.

Students interested in Honors may complete the Honors Portfolio to earn Honors credit at the end of the semester; please see Mrs. Doyle for more details.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Attendance & Absences
Attendance is crucial to your success. If you are absent, please check the website for the assignments from the day(s) you missed.
- Attendance is taken the first 5 minutes of class. Repeated tardies will result in parent contact and detention.
- You have two days for each day absent to make up work. After that point, it will be counted as late.
- Work due on the date of an absence should be turned in first thing upon your return.

Behavior & Attitude
Your education is a privilege, and any disruptive or inappropriate behavior leads to others losing out on learning opportunities.
- Be respectful to the teacher and other students.
- Be in your seat when the bell rings with your material for class.
- Come prepared with assigned work completed. Failure to do homework will lead to you falling behind.
- No bullying or inappropriate or offensive language will be tolerated.

Late Work & Grades
- Missing work will be accepted for late credit until the end of the Unit it is from (Ex: No TKAM accepted once Short Stories have begun).
- I strive to update at least one assignment in my gradebook per week (more whenever possible). English is subjective and sometimes takes longer to grade than other subjects; thank you for your patience.
- Late & Absent work must be submitted to the Late/Absent box and labelled “Late” or “Absent”.
- Late & Missing work is updated Thursday mornings before Eligibility.
- Work due during a student absence will be marked with an “a” for Absent—this is not a 0, just a friendly reminder that the work is still due.
- If an assignment has an long-term deadline, I do not offer extensions.
- I do not offer extra credit.

YEAR AT A GLANCE

Each unit includes short stories, non-fiction articles, and a Medium Constructed Response

1st Quarter
- Re-establishing classroom procedures and year-long skills
- Advice Column
- To Kill a Mockingbird

2nd Quarter
- Short Story Unit
- Holocaust Stories

3rd Quarter
- Animal Farm
- GOAL Fair

4th Quarter
- GOAL Fair Presentations
- Twelfth Night

Final Exam
Each semester will have a final exam. It will be cumulative, and the May final will incorporate information from both semesters.

GOAL Fair is...
A Capstone research essay that we will work to construct throughout the entire school year, beginning with developing a question on an individualized topic, all the way through the first drafting and final drafting process. Rumors abound, and this project sounds hard, but if you stick with the schedule I will provide, it will go smoothly. Promise.

A Note on Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is copying or using someone else’s work without giving credit. It is a form of cheating and carries serious consequences, including plagiarized work receiving a permanent 0%.
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Please detach and return this page to acknowledge that you have read and understand the syllabus. Feel free to contact me with any questions regarding policies: adoyle@jajags.com.

Signed syllabus is due Monday, August 19th.

STUDENT PRINTED NAME: ____________________________________________

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _______________________________________________

PARENT PRINTED NAME: _____________________________________________

PARENT SIGNATURE: ________________________________________________