

Dear Parents,

Welcome to seventh grade! It is a great year full of growth for your child. I love this age and so enjoy teaching them. My goal this year is to guide your child into becoming the best language arts student possible. We will study Greek morphemes which will help in decoding unfamiliar words and help prepare for ACT/SAT tests. We will continue developing and broadening our vocabulary using *Vocabulary Workshop* as well as words taken from our literature. The study of grammar will cover all eight parts of speech, the seven noun functions, and the diagramming of sentences. Our literature will include a unit on short stories, outside AR reading, and three novels: *The Westing Game*, *The Outsiders*, and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

We will spend time writing this year. My classes will be in the computer lab and using their iPad to develop and strengthen their writing skills. I will give a wide range of topics about which to write with the intent that each student will find their writing strengths and improve on the weaknesses. We will also create Prezi's Wordles, and other projects which will require different types of writing skills. Some of our projects will also require oral presentations to help in developing speaking skills along with the writing skills. Our final project will be a scrapbook at the end of the year covering the events of their entire seventh grade year.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of help to you or your child in any way this year. Email, deena.irwin@lipscomb.edu, will be the quickest and surest method of contacting me.

Again, welcome to seventh grade! It will be a year full of learning and fun!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deena Irwin".

Deena Irwin