**Mrs. Kunz**

 **Grade 8**

Supplies: Please bring the following items to class everyday. It is very important to be prepared!

* Pencil case: Pencils, erasers, red pen, & highlighter
* Planner
* Composition notebook for interactive worksheets
* Notebook for daily notes
* Loose leaf for essays

Classroom Rules:

1. Cooperate with your teacher and classmates.
2. Respect the rights & property of others.
3. Carry out your student responsibilities.



Rewards:

Each student will receive a punch card. Once a punch card is full, the student can pick a reward from the prize jar.

Discipline Plan:

1. Verbal warning
2. Loss of lunch recess and/or PE class
3. When a student has lost four lunch recesses or PE classes due to minor behavior problems, the student will receive one detention. The parents and principal will be notified.
4. Students will receive one detention for a severe behavior infraction.

\*See the Middle School Handbook for more details regarding the Discipline Plan.

Students will study various mini units throughout the year. Topics will be discussed in class using notes and practice problems. Homework problems will be given to review the concept discussed in class. Worksheets and quizzes will be given in class to ensure comprehension of the topics. A test will be given at the end of each unit.

Topics to be Covered:

* Grammar RUles
* Types of Sentences
* Parts of Speech
* Active & Passive Voice
* Verbals
* Moods of Verbs
* Punctuation
* Connotation & Denotation
* Irony & Puns

Homework: Students will receive participation points for completing homework assignments. Three points will be given for completing the entire assignment, two points for partial, and one point for less than half. Additional homework assignments may be sent home that will not be counted as participation.

After the class completes a mini unit, a writing assignment will be started.

Students will write papers throughout the year as well as various mini writing assignments. All students will follow a writing process: *Prewriting, Draft One, Peer Review, Draft Two, Teacher Conference, Final Paper*. Deadlines will be set by the teacher and will vary based on each student’s progress.

Papers: 

* Argument
* Informative
* Narrative
* Newspaper
* Research

Root Words:

Every other week students will complete a unit learning about Greek and Latin roots. Students will learn about the roots and complete worksheets for an in class grade.

Memory Book

A book of memories will be scrapbooked. It will consist of memories and thoughts from the student’s life. There will be a total of eight chapters in the book, deadlines will be set throughout the year. The entire book will be compiled and due at the end of the year. More information will be sent home at a later date.

Monthly Writing Assignments

Students will be required to complete two writing assignments each month. This is an independent writing assignment. Students will need to follow the format given and use their free time in class to complete the assignment. The writing assignments will be collected each month and taken as a participation grade.

Extra Credit

Students will be offered extra credit on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students will have an opportunity to complete a half sheet containing four problems. Each problem is worth half a point. If a student doesn’t put their name on the paper, it will be thrown away and no points will be given. Points will be added to the English-Language Arts grade at midterm and the end of the quarter.

Weighted Grades:

Tests 40%

Quizzes & In Class Assignments 30%

Homework 25%

Participation 5%

It is the student’s responsibility to ask questions and seek out extra help before/after school or during academic prep. I am here to help each student learn and work up to their potential!

Hello!

My name is Colleen Kunz. This is my second year working at Bartelso Elementary, and my eleventh year teaching. I graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. In 2010, I attended McKendree University to receive my middle school endorsement., I have experience teaching first, second, third, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade.

I got married in 2016 to my husband, Keith. We immediately adopted a dog, Louie. In May 2017, we had our first child, Kane William. He has brought us so much joy, and we love watching him learn and grow each day. In my freetime I enjoy boating, shopping, and spending time with family and friends.

I am looking forward to teaching your children. I thoroughly enjoyed teaching here last year, and I am excited to start a new year! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at anytime. It is important that we work together to help your child grow their love for learning.

**These are a few of my favorite things…**

 Food: Pizza, Cookies, & Salads

 Restaurants: Qdoba, Mungos,, & Starbucks

 Drink: Diet COke & Coffee

 Color: Yellow

 Shops: Target, Gap, & Loft

 Vacation: Boating on Bull Shoals Lake or the Ozarks

 Music: Classic Rock

 Book: The OUtsiders