

# Language Arts



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
- Notebook for daily notes



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 grammar 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 most units.

Topics to be Covered:

- Grammar Rules
- Types of Sentences
- Parts of Speech
- Active & Passive Voice
- Verbals
- Moods of Verbs
- Punctuation
- Irony & Puns
- Connotation & Denotation
- Public Speaking

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 may not be counted as participation.

Writing: Students will write papers throughout the year as well as various mini writing assignments. All students will follow a writing process that is guided by the teacher. The process will contain many drafts and revisions. Deadlines will be set by the teacher and will vary based on each student's progress.

Papers:

- Argument
- Informative
- Narrative
- Newspaper
- Research



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.

Kindergarten Book

Each student will write a narrative for the kindergarten class. They will use the kindergarten sight words to write the book and add their own illustrations. This book will be worked on throughout the year. The rough draft will be due before Christmas break. When students return from the break, they will receive their hardback book to complete their final. Books will be due in May and presented to the kindergarten class.

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 at the end of the quarter.

Public Speaking

Students will practice public speaking throughout the year. Ted Talks will be used to help students learn proper speaking techniques. Students will be required to give an impromptu speech, Ted Talk, and a demonstration speech.

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 fourth year working at Bartelso Elementary, and my thirteenth 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. In June 2019, we had our little girl, Callie Marie. Our children have brought us so much joy, and we love watching them learn and grow each day. In my free time, I enjoy boating, shopping, and spending time with family and friends.

I am looking forward to teaching your children. I thoroughly enjoy teaching in Bartelso; it is a wonderful community of people. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. 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, Dewey's Pizza,, & 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

