

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the new school year! The beginning of a new year is always an exciting and busy time. So much learning and growth awaits us. This year will look a little different than what is familiar to us, but our teachers and staff are dedicated to making it just as meaningful and fun. I am committed to filling this year with excitement, growth, and opportunity. I will guide and encourage each child, as well as challenge students to encourage and push themselves. The middle school years can be tough, but my hope is that I can help the students gain a love of learning, develop their academic skills, and bolster their self-confidence.

I promise to do my best to care for each student's academic and socioemotional needs. I love teaching and I look forward to supporting and encouraging each student as the class embarks on our adventure in language arts learning. I remain dedicated to supporting both the academic and socioemotional needs of my diverse students. I understand that our world is going through a historic moment that is impacting our young learners. I will continually make space in our learning environment for students to discuss how they are feeling, what they have been doing, and if they need anything from the class or me. I will encourage students to consider our classroom a safe space in which they can voice concerns and find comfort. This year, as always, I will position students' emotional and mental health at the forefront of our curriculum as they navigate school through these unprecedented times.

I am so excited to have your students in my class. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's academic or social needs, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will encourage your students to do the same. My highest priority is the growth and success of our young learners. I hope you will all take an interest in your students' education, as I encourage a strong home-school connection. I am here to support you and your student in any way that I can. We have an exciting, busy year of learning ahead of us!

Sincerely,

Emma Lichtcsien

8th Grade ELA Teacher

Gemini Middle School