

Hello First Lutheran Middle Schoolers and Parents!

My name is Sally Osborn. This past year at First Lutheran, I had the privilege of teaching Middle School ELA, Literature, and 6th Grade History. This upcoming school year will be my third year of teaching at First Lutheran. My family and I have been a part of the First Lutheran family for 13 years, and I am SO very excited to be continuing both my roles at First Lutheran as parent and teacher.

This school year will mark my 22nd year in education. At the high school level, I have taught all levels of English, including college prep, honors, AP, and inclusion. I have three degrees from the University of Tennessee: Bachelor's in English, Master's in English Education, and an Educational Specialist degree in Teacher Education.

Those of you that had me last year know that I have high expectations when it comes to reading and writing. Our goal is to read as many short stories, poems, and novels, and to write as many narrative, expository, and argumentative essays as we can in the school year. Even though my expectations for students are high, I try to always communicate with parents about homework and plan out major projects (like book reports) well in advance.

I can't wait to see all my former 6th and 7th graders again this year, and I am super excited to get to know my new rising 6th graders. I look forward to learning more about each and every one of you, and I can't wait to start this new school year with you; I can't wait to dive into all the reading, writing, and discussions we will have together to grow and expand our knowledge and understanding of humanities in God's creation.

If you have any questions about the supply list or the summer reading assignment, please feel free to contact me.

Have a great summer, and I will see you in August!

Sally Osborn

P.S. Our basket theme for Germanfest will be "Camping," so start brainstorming now about some creative items we can add to make our basket 'un-be-leaf-able!' (I also love a good pun!)

## Ms. Osborn's Middle School (6th, 7th, 8th) English Supplies and Binder Organization

### Supply List

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) Binder (2 inch)  | 2) Dividers (Total of 5)-- plastic ones are best!      |
| 3) Notebook paper (put in notes/writing section)              | 4) Composition Notebook                                |
| 5) 2 Folders (Any color or design)                            | 6) 3 Packages of index cards                           |
| 7) 2 boxes of tissues   | 8) Pencil pouch  |
| 9) <i>Package of colored pens (for in-class grading)</i>      | 10) <i>2 Packages of pencils (No. 2)</i>               |
| 11) <i>Pink eraser/White-Out (liquid)</i>                     | 12) <i>Package of highlighters (multicolored-thin)</i> |
| 13) <i>4 Black Sharpies – two regular and two fine-tipped</i> |  |
- *Items 9-13 go into the pencil pouch.*

### Divider Tabs

Please label your dividers and place them in the following order in your binder.

- 1) Bell Ringers
  - 2) Vocabulary
  - 3) Texts/Readings
  - 4) Notes/Writing
  - 5) Graded Papers
- 

## Ms. Osborn's 6th Grade History Supplies and Binder Organization

- 1) Binder (1.5 inch)
- 2) Dividers (Total of 3) – plastic ones are best!
- 3) 3 packages of index cards
- 4) 2 packages of Post-It Notes

### Divider Tabs

Please label your dividers and place them in the following order in your binder.

- 1) Bell Ringers
- 2) Notes
- 3) Graded Papers

## Summer Reading Assignments

### 7th Grade:

**Book:** *Hour of the Bees* by Lindsay Edgar

### Assignment:

- 1) **Dodecahedron:** Follow the step-by-step instructions included in your summer reading packet. Your project will be graded on content understanding, artistic quality, writing, and preparation/organization. All illustrations should be colored, and writing must be done in pen or Sharpie. Since there are only 8 categories, and you have 12 pentagons to create, you can do more than one pentagon on: key characters, key themes, key moments, or significant quotes. Each of the 12 pentagons should have an illustration or symbol, along with the writing.

### 8th Grade:

**Book:** *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

- 1) **Tree Project:** Follow the directions included in your summer reading packet. You will need a piece of poster board to complete your tree. We will be writing an essay the first week of school based on the themes from the novel.

**Optional Summer Reading:** In addition to the assigned book and activity, please feel free to complete the Summer Reading BINGO Board, if you are interested. This is **optional**; however, I will make sure that those who complete the Summer Reading BINGO Board will be rewarded upon completion. A parent or guardian must sign the bottom of the BINGO board upon completion of all squares. Due by Friday, August 14th.

# A Tree Grows in Brooklyn: Summer Reading Assignment

Your task: Create and “plant” your own tree in the form of a poster (22 X 28 - the size you can get at any store)

1. Label the base of your **trunk** with your name, age, and a favorite quote from the novel that is important to you.
2. Label your **branches** with the topics/themes listed below. You will have 5 branches.
3. “Carve” a character or important scene from the novel into the **trunk** of your tree.
4. Create **leaves** for each of the 5 branches:
  - a. At least 3 leaves explaining how plot events, characters, etc. illustrate/show this theme
  - b. At least 2 leaves that answer the posed questions below
  - c. At least 3 leaves that have citations from the novel that support the theme

\*In summary, your tree will have 5 branches (one for each theme) and at least 8 leaves per branch (total of 40 leaves).

\* Sketch out your tree and leaves with pencil first, including all of the writing. Outline it in Sharpie. Color with colored pencils or crayons.

## Five Themes

**#1 Poverty:** Poverty is an everyday fact for many millions of Americans today. What does it mean to be poor? What experiences have you had with poverty in your life? How do the main characters of *A Tree Grows In Brooklyn* respond to the poverty they experience?

**#2 Education:** Education can be formal, as in school, or informal, as in learning important things from friends and family members. How do you define education? What does it mean to you? How have you experienced education in your own life? How do the main characters of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* experience education? Why?

**#3 Gender:** How do you think gender affects one's experiences in life? How do the genders of the main characters in *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* affect their life experiences? How has gender affected your life today?

**#4 Perseverance:** Perseverance means doing and working to accomplish something despite difficulties. Is perseverance an important quality in your life? Why or why not? Do you consider yourself a persevering person? Why or why not? What examples of perseverance have you found in the *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*?

**#5 The American Dream:** What does the American Dream mean to you? What do you think most Americans dream about achieving in their lives? What do you dream about achieving in your life? What is the American Dream for the main characters of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*? What is your biggest dream?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Incarnation Second Grade Summer Reading  
Due August 17, 2018

# Genre Reading Bingo

\*Read 5 books in a row to make a bingo. On the back, fill in the boxes using one of the nonfiction and fiction books in your 5 in row.

<b>Mystery</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Fantasy</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Nonfiction</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Free Choice</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Book in a Series</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____
<b>Nonfiction</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Biography</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Book in a Series</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Fairy Tale</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Fiction</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____
<b>Chapter Book</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Book in a Series</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Free Choice</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Mystery</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Nonfiction</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____
<b>Book in a Series</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Chapter Book</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Poetry</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Nonfiction</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Biography</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____
<b>Biography</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Nonfiction</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Mystery</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Book in a Series</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Chapter Book</b> Title: _____ _____ _____ _____

Dear First Lutheran Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are enjoying a wonderful start to the summer. I will be teaching 6th Grade Math and Science, as well as 7th and 8th Grade Math. This is my second year at First Lutheran School, and I feel truly blessed to be here.

Please have your child work on their math memory work over the summer to help prepare for the upcoming school year.

I believe open communication is key to helping our students thrive, so I encourage you to stay in touch. You can reach me at [tpierce@firstlutheralschool.com](mailto:tpierce@firstlutheralschool.com), call the school office at (865) 524-0308, or feel free to schedule a meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or if there is anything specific you would like me to know about your child.

I look forward to a wonderful year together!

Warm regards,  
Tina Pierce  
Middle School  
6th Grade Math & Science, 7th–8th Grade Math

P.S. Our 6th-grade basket theme for Germanfest will be “Chocolate.” If you are willing to donate or pick up items for our auction basket, it would be greatly appreciated. I will send out a more detailed list at the beginning of the school year.

Current ideas include:

- Chocolate from around the world (World Market, Trader Joe’s, etc.)
- Wacky or unique chocolate treats
- Specialty chocolate-covered nuts or fruit
- Chocolate stout or porter
- Deluxe hot chocolate mixes
- Chocolate coffee toppings and syrups

Additional ideas are always welcome!

## Middle School Student Supplies List

### 6th Grade Supply List Math & Science

- one 100 page Notebook, spiral, 8.5" x 11" (college rule)
- one binder (1.5" - 2")
- binder dividers (only need 4-5)
- sticky note page markers (aka: flags)
- 2 pocket folders (any color or design)
- pencil pouch (to leave in classroom)
- box of Ticonderoga #2 lead, 12 pack, (bring sharpened, write your name on it)
- 2 pink erasers
- pencil sharpener (small, fit pencil pouch)
- 2 or 3 color pens (red, blue, green, purple; dark colors that can be easily read)
- 1 high lighter (any color)
- 2 black sharpies normal
- 2 black sharpies, fine point

### Classroom Supplies

- 2 (college rule) loose leaf paper with 3 holes
- 1 pack markers (wide)
- 1 pack color pencils, sharpened
- 1 pack markers (skinny)

### 7th & 8th Grade Supply List Math

- one 100 page Notebook, spiral, 8.5" x 11" (college rule)
- one binder (1.5" - 2")
- binder dividers (only need 4-5)
- sticky note page markers (aka: flags)
- 2 pocket folders (any color or design)
- pencil pouch (to leave in classroom)
- box of Ticonderoga #2 lead, 12 pack, (bring sharpened, write your name on it)
- 2 pink erasers
- pencil sharpener (small, fit pencil pouch)
- 2 or 3 color pens (red, blue, green, purple; dark colors that can be easily read)
- 1 high lighter (any color)
- 2 black sharpies normal
- 2 black sharpies, fine point

### Classroom Supplies

- 2 (college rule) loose leaf paper with 3 holes
- 1 pack markers (wide)
- 1 pack color pencils, sharpened
- 1 pack markers (skinny)

\* Please note that I grade binder (in order of lesson, tests) and spiral notebook (notes) throughout the year.

## 7th and 8th Grade Summer Assignment

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade you are in: \_\_\_\_\_

### Perfect Squares Chart (Note: this is worth a grade)

1. Fill out the perfect squares chart using pencil. Bring to school and hand in the first day of class.
2. Check it for accuracy. Neatness counts.
3. This summer memorize the perfect squares and the multiples 1 to 12 (if you have not already).

(Multiples 1 - 12 Ex:  $1 \times 1 = 1$ ,  $1 \times 2 = 2$ , ...  $11 \times 12 = 132$ ,  $12 \times 12 = 144$ )  
Get creative!

Ask someone how they did it or google ways to memorize multiples, especially your 9's. There is a free phone app called 'Math Facts - Flash Cards'. Go "old school" and make your own flash cards. (Extra credit if you make a complete set of flash cards to practice with (144 total): problem on front, answer on back of index cards).

This will make math easier for you this year and beyond. I promise!!!

See you in August, have a great summer,

Mrs. Pierce 😎

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Perfect Squares

(helps with taking the square root of numbers)


$1^2 =$ _____	$11^2 =$ _____
$2^2 =$ _____	$12^2 =$ _____
$3^2 =$ _____	$13^2 =$ _____
$4^2 =$ _____	$14^2 =$ _____
$5^2 =$ _____	$15^2 =$ _____
$6^2 =$ _____	$16^2 =$ _____
$7^2 =$ _____	$17^2 =$ _____
$8^2 =$ _____	$18^2 =$ _____
$9^2 =$ _____	$19^2 =$ _____
$10^2 =$ _____	$20^2 =$ _____




# WELCOME TO PE/ATHLETICS

Howdy y'all!

I am excited to be here for my third year at First Lutheran and my 16<sup>th</sup> year coaching and teaching. I teach PE and I am also the Athletic Director.



## Important things to know about PE

- Please wear tennis shoes on PE days.
  - 5th-8<sup>th</sup> grade students have the option to change into athletic clothes.
  - Proper athletic clothes: First Lutheran shirt, shorts that are mid-thigh or longer in length, and jogger pants. Leggings can be worn, but must have a shirt that covers their bottom without pulling down their shirt. All students must change back into uniform attire at the end of PE.
  - All students must participate in daily activities.
  - If your student cannot participate in PE or athletics for any reason, please send me an email or a doctor's note with instructions.
  - We do fitness testing
  - Field Day for K-8 is on May 14, 2027
  - Participate, have fun, and find a lifetime activity you love!
- 



## Athletic Activities for Students

A sports physical is required for some sports activities. Please have sports physical done before sports season begins. Sports physical forms can be found in the school office or table across from the school office.

Volleyball, Basketball,  
Cheer, and Soccer: Grades  
5th-8th

\*Needs an athletic physical on file.

Pep Squad: Grades 1st-4th  
Little Lions: Grades 1st-4th

Cross Country: Grades 3rd-8<sup>th</sup> grade





\*Needs an athletic physical on file.

\*\* Sports activities available are subject to change if we do not meet the numbers needed to play that sports activity.

## Contact Me

Email: [athletics@firstlutheranschool.com](mailto:athletics@firstlutheranschool.com)

Phone: (865) 524-0308





# WELCOME TO PE/ATHLETICS

## Important Athletic Dates

- Aug. 6, 2026- First day of volleyball practice
- Aug. 7, 2026- First Day of cross Country practice
- Aug. 10, 2026- Volleyball and Cross Country parent meeting
- Aug. 22, 2026- Germanfest
- Sept. 28- Oct. 2, 2026- Volleyball End of Season Tournament
- Oct. 3, 2026- Cross Country Area Championships
- Oct. 24, 2026- Cross Country State Championships
- Oct. 12, 2026- First Day of basketball, cheer, and pep squad practices for boys and girls
- Oct. 20, 2026- Basketball and Cheer parent meeting
- Oct. 27, 2026- pep squad parent meeting
- Jan. 15- 17, 2027- Lutheran Basketball Tournament at St. Stephens Lutheran School- Hickory, NC
- Feb. 1-5, 2027- Basketball End of Season Tournament
- Feb. 8- March 5, 2027- Little Lions Basketball
- Feb. 16, 2027- Little Lion parent meeting
- Feb. 16- April 30, 2027- MS Soccer Season
- May 14, 2027- Field Day K-8<sup>th</sup> grades

### Contact Me

Email: [athletics@firstlutherschool.com](mailto:athletics@firstlutherschool.com)

Phone: (865) 524-0308