Dear Rising Tide Sixth Grade Families,

Greetings from the sixth grade team! We are looking forward to meeting our new students this fall. We have various activities planned that reflect our sixth grade guiding question, “How Can I Connect with Others?”

Keeping our guiding question in mind, we stress the importance of our students developing a positive connection with each other through teambuilding exercises. We start the year with various teambuilding activities during the first week of school. Early in the fall, we further our exploration of connections with a visit to the de Cordova Museum in Lincoln, MA. There we will observe and analyze the way artists, especially sculptors, connect with their audience through their work. We conclude the year with a field trip that helps students examine and experience the way we affect and connect to our surroundings. In the past we have visited the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and the Weston Observatory.

This summer, sixth graders are responsible for reading Rules by Cynthia Lord. This Newbery Honor Book is told from the point-of-view of 12 year old Catherine, a girl who struggles to find her own identity amongst her family’s diversity. Families are encouraged to read and discuss the book with their sixth grader. Please see the school’s website for other suggested titles as well as a list of activities for families.

Homework is an important part of each student’s day. It provides a way for them to practice skills and learn new concepts. In the sixth grade, homework should take approximately one hour each school night. Homework is expected to be completed by each student, and it needs to be brought in to school the day it is due in order to receive credit. Frequent failure to complete homework will result in a disciplinary action. Please see our Student Handbook for more information (including absence from school due to illness) regarding homework expectations at Rising Tide.

In the sixth grade we encourage our students to become more independent as they are no longer the youngest students in the building. Each subject area teacher will outline expectations for his/her class at the beginning of the year. We hope that you, as parents, will support our expectations as well.

Additionally, please find a copy of required supplies that each student will need throughout the school year. Please make sure that your child brings the items for the first day of school. Please have your child label all supplies with his or her first and last names.

We thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Rising Tide at (508) 747-2620.
Have a wonderful summer,
The Sixth Grade Team
6th Grade Required Supply List 2012-2013

No White-Out Please
2 GB (minimum) flash drive
6 - 1 inch, three ring binders with dividers and paper
ELA (4 dividers)
Communications and Investigations (3 dividers)
Classical World (5 dividers)
Math (3 dividers)
Science (4 dividers)
Social Studies (5 dividers)
Several packages of loose leaf paper
Low odor dry-erase markers
¼ inch graph paper (for math) spiral bound
4 packages of 3 ½ x 5 index cards in separate Ziploc bags
1 - two pocket folder for music class
4 packages (12) erasable pens in blue or black
4 packages #2 pencils with extra erasers (Please make sure your child has enough pencils for the duration of the school year)
Hand-held plastic pencil sharpener with cover
Highlighters
Several glue sticks
1 double-sided ruler (standard and metric)
1 dictionary (home use)
1 thesaurus (home use)
2 boxes of Kleenex
$15 for a homework agenda, art sketchbook, music journal, and advisory journal
$20 ELA book fee