

1/19/21

Hello Parents,

Today in class we had an important discussion about respect. Please take some time to discuss with your child what they know about respect and how they will go forward being respectful in 6th grade.

Next week we will be starting our next book, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. A synopsis of the story written by the Shakespeare Theatre Company is attached. Be warned though, the synopsis shares all of the important details including the ending. The version we are reading is an abridged version that still contains the most important parts and flows smoothly through the story line. Throughout *Macbeth*, we will be discussing various themes of free will vs. fate, appearance vs. reality, unchecked ambition, and the nature of evil. The goal will be to have student-directed discussions where they can share their own thoughts and their interpretations of the text.

I am thoroughly excited to teach this text and dive into the analysis of each character's progress/digression. We will start on Wednesday by reading Edgar Allen Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart* (I gave the students a quick synopsis and those that do not want to read the story are welcome to work in the hallway). As we read *Macbeth* we'll discuss the similarities between the two main characters.

*Macbeth* is one of our more advanced and mature books (such is the nature of Shakespeare) and we'll have a class discussion on maintaining maturity throughout the reading of the book. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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<https://fisoclassroomlit.weebly.com>