

# Seventh Grade Curriculum

## **RELIGION**

The religion curriculum for the seventh grade revolves around the life and times of Jesus Christ and the traditions of the Catholic Church.

Students will explore the following:

- the life and teachings of Jesus through Christian scripture
- visible signs of God's grace
- Christ's message with action
- experiencing the New Testament
- prayer and ritual of the Church
- the sacrament of sacraments
- Mary and the saints
- understanding the Mass
- family life

In addition to the religion and family life texts, students use Bibles frequently. Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday may be explored. Traditional prayers will be reviewed or learned, and other forms of prayer will be experienced throughout the school year.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

The two periods of Language Arts include the following subject areas: Literature/Vocabulary, English Grammar/Writing, and Spelling.

### **Reading**

Students will:

- recognize and read the following types of literature: novels, short stories, plays, poetry, myths, biographies, and autobiographies.
- read in a variety of genres, for example realistic fiction, fantasy, science fiction, historical fiction, mystery, and adventure.
- analyze fiction in terms of plot, theme, character, and setting.
- recognize the methods of character development.
- evaluate the author's use of literary devices.
- compare and contrast characters, objects, events, and ideas.
- use reference materials effectively.
- connect what is read with prior knowledge.

In addition to the class anthology, we read novels during the school year. As much as possible, the language arts curriculum is integrated with other seventh grade classes.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS – cont.**

### **Writing**

Students will:

- use all stages of the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising and editing, publishing and reflecting).
- write cohesive exposition in class under test conditions.
- write for a variety of purposes (e.g. descriptive, narrative, and expository).
- use a variety of sentence structures.
- publish written work in a variety of forms.
- write across the curriculum.

Writing is a critical and powerful mode of communication. Therefore, the seventh grade English class writes frequently to sharpen vocabulary, mechanics, and expression of ideas.

### **Listening**

Students will:

- listen as they are read to.
- focus attention on speaker.
- listen actively for purpose and meaning.
- demonstrate respect for the ideas and opinions of others.
- listen and take notes on lecture material.

### **Speaking**

Students will:

- communicate effectively with peers and adults by speaking clearly with appropriate volume, making eye contact, and maintaining good posture.
- participate appropriately in class discussions.
- use voice effectively to convey meaning.
- give oral presentations for specific purposes.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **Number Sense**

Students will:

- read, write, and compare rational numbers in scientific notation.
- add, subtract, multiply, divide, and order rational numbers, (integers, fractions, and decimals) using a number line and/or algebra tiles and take rational numbers to integer powers.

## **MATHEMATICS – cont.**

- convert equivalent fractions, decimals, and percents.
- calculate the greatest common factor and least common multiple using prime factorization.
- use exponents, powers, and roots in working with fractions.

### **Algebra and Functions**

Students will:

- use algebraic terminology, expressions, equations, inequalities, and their graphs to express quantitative relationships.
- interpret and evaluate expressions involving integer powers and simple roots.
- simplify and evaluate expressions that include exponents
- graph and interpret linear and basic non-linear functions.

### **Measurement and Geometry**

Students will:

- choose appropriate units of measure and ratios to convert within the metric and customary systems of measurement to solve problems.
- compute the perimeter, area, and volume of common geometric objects.
- demonstrate an understanding of congruent geometric figures.

### **Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability**

Students will:

- collect, organize, and represent data sets that have one or more variable and identify relationships among variables within a data set.
- expand their knowledge of experimental and theoretical probability.

### **Mathematical Reasoning**

Students will:

- make decisions about how to approach problems.
- use strategies, skills, and concepts in finding solutions.

**Note: An advanced seventh grade math class is available for those students who meet the entrance criteria.**

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Students will analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the following medieval and early modern civilizations:

- Roman Empire (fall of)
- Islam
- China
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Japan
- Europe
- Mesoamerica

Students will also examine the origins, accomplishments, and lasting developments of:

- The Renaissance
- The Reformation
- Scientific Revolution/Enlightenment

Students will identify and discuss current events.

## **SCIENCE**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade science curriculum has a central focus on life science. During the study of life science, the students are also exposed to physical and earth science. The students will learn:

- all living organisms are composed of cells, from one to many trillions, whose details are visible only through a microscope.
- the anatomy and physiology of plants and animals illustrate the complementary nature of structure and function.
- organisms are classified based on evolutionary characteristics.
- a typical cell of any organism contains a genetic instruction that specifies its traits.
- biological evolution accounts for the diversity of species developed through gradual processes over many generations.
- evidence from rocks allows us to understand the evolution of life on earth.
- physical principles underlie biological structures and functions.
- scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations.

## **SPANISH**

All students in first through eighth grades will be introduced to the Spanish language at a sequential and developmentally appropriate pace. Middle School students have Spanish three times per week. Students will learn conversational Spanish phrases, read and write Spanish vocabulary. Students will begin to understand the structure of the Spanish language by learning the basics of grammar. Students will experience the language through a variety of authentic learning experiences.

## **COMPUTERS**

Students will have computers integrated throughout the curriculum.

## **ART**

Students will have art integrated throughout the curriculum.

### **Parent Survey Comments**

- Our family has found that Holy Spirit exceeded our expectation that we had for our child and for the school environment. We love the family atmosphere and look forward to the upcoming years with HSS.
- We like the discipline and structure. Everyone (teachers, staff...) is concerned and sincere. The school seems to be well organized; our first year has been very smooth.
- Dedicated staff and feeling of community that this school provides. Location was a plus.

*The purpose of this flyer is to present you with an idea of the curriculum offered to students in this grade level at Holy Spirit School. A flyer cannot completely explain the curriculum, but focuses on major themes and content.*