

Curriculum 8 Grade

Religion

Goal:

Students will come to know, love, and live the rich heritage of the faith that we are proud to profess in Jesus Christ through doctrine, scripture, church history, and the liturgical seasons

Objectives:

- To help students deepen their understanding of what the Church believes, how we pray, and how living the faith makes a difference in our lives
- Students will learn how to prayerfully reflect on the meaning of God's word and integrate the word of God into their daily lives
- To learn about and celebrate the cycle of the liturgical year, the great mysteries of the faith, and to reflect on God's presence with us throughout time and history

Whole Year Focus:

- The mystery of God as one in three Persons and all that God has revealed to us
- Jesus, the only Son of God, is truly God and truly man
- The heart of Christ's work among us is called the Paschal Mystery
- The Holy Spirit guides all the baptized to work together as the Body of Christ in the world
- Prayer is an expression of faith and trust in God
- The growth of the Church from a small group of disciples into a worldwide community of believers
- The liturgical year is the cycle of Sundays, weekdays, feasts, and the celebration of seasons

Assessment of Goals and Objectives:

- Announced tests and quizzes on readings
- Evaluation based on discussion and group work
- Reports, research, and projects determined by the instructor

Resources:

- Faith First Junior High Creed and Prayer, Resources for Christian Living
- Various handouts selected by the instructor
- Grade 8 Retreat, Miramar Retreat Center
- www.faithfirst.com
- www.catholic.org/clifedaily_reading

Language Arts

Goal:

For students to continue to gain the skills to become active readers and to guide them into, through, and beyond the literature book. For the students to develop a thorough knowledge of the English language, as well as, the ability to write and speak clearly, creatively, and effectively

Objectives:

- To offer insight into how the author came to write the selection
- To utilize a literary focus introducing concepts and providing a specific goal for reading
- A vocabulary list indicating words from the selection that might present difficulty in reading
- To encourage comprehension and motivate reading of various types of literature

- To help students organize their study of vocabulary and gain control of new words
- To understand the close relationship between grammar and composition
- To understand that writing, as well as, speaking, listening, and literature are learned best in conjunction with grammar
- To understand that the writing process develops through a series of stages —prewriting, writing, revision, editing, and publishing
- To understand the purpose of writing and different language styles
- To understand how to become effective communicators through writing, speaking, and listening

Whole Year Focus:

Short Stories

- Read and appreciate short stories
- Become familiar with the elements of a short story
- Use critical thinking and reading strategies to gain a fuller understanding of the short story
- Develop strategies for understanding and appreciating the words in a story
- Use short stories as a spring board for writing imaginatively and critically

Drama

- Read and appreciate drama
- Become familiar with the elements of drama
- Understanding conflict in drama
- Recognizing the playwright's purpose
- Writing a script

Non-fiction

- Read and appreciate non-fiction

- Become familiar with types of non-fiction
- Reading and understanding biographies, personal accounts, essays, and essays in content areas

Poetry

- Read and appreciate poetry
- Become familiar with types of poetry
- Become familiar with themes in poetry
- Recognize poetic devices

American Myths, Legends, and Folktales

- Read and appreciate myths, legends, and folktales from America's past
- Become familiar with the elements of a myth, a legend, a folktale, a yarn, and a ballad
- Develop strategies for understanding and appreciating the words, including dialect, in myths, legends, folktales, and ballads

Use all of the above as motivation for imaginative writing of different types of tales.

Grammar

- Parts of Speech
- Noun
- Pronoun
- Adjective
- Verb
- Adverb
- Preposition
- Conjunction
- Interjection

Using Nouns Correctly

- Nominative Case
- Objective Case
- Possessive Case

Complements

- Direct objects
- Indirect objects
- Predicate nouns

Using Pronouns Correctly

- Nominative Case
- Objective Case

Using Verbs Correctly

- Principal parts
- Regular verbs
- Irregular verbs
- Tenses

Using Modifiers Correctly

- Comparison
- Placement

Agreement

- Subject and predicate
- Pronoun and antecedent

The Phrase

- Prepositional phrase
- Verbal phrase

The Clause

- Independent clause
- Dependent clause

Sentence Structure

- Simple sentence
- Compound sentence
- Complex sentence
- Compound-complex sentence

Capital Letters

Punctuation

- End marks
- Commas
- Semicolons
- Colons
- Quotation marks
- Apostrophes
- Hyphens
- Writing

Paragraphs

- Selecting and narrowing a topic
- Writing topic, beginning, middle, and ending sentences
- Creating a topic

Developing writing Skills

- Unity
- Coherence
- Comparison
- Contrast
- Revision
- Proofreading

Refining Writing Skills

- Combining independent clauses
- Sentence combining with adjectival and adverbial clauses
- Expanding sentences

Types of Paragraphs

- Descriptive paragraphs
- Narrative paragraphs
- Expository paragraphs

Persuasive Paragraphs

Writing across the Curriculum

- Outlining and writing a report
- Writing about books

Creative Tools for Writing

- Simile, Metaphor
- Personification, Hyperbole
- Alliteration, Onomatopoeia

Letter Writing

- Parts of a social letter
- Writing social letters
- Parts of a business letter
- Writing business letters

Speaking and Listening Skills

- Oral presentations
- Poetry readings
- Listening skills

Library Skills

- Using the dictionary
- Using the thesaurus
- Using other reference tools

Assessment of Goals and Objectives:

- Independent study will be the responsibility of each student
- after the lesson has been introduced and taught

- Questions, worksheets dealing with specific goals will be assigned
- Text book readings in class and at home followed by oral discussions
- Short quizzes following completed readings
- Weekly scheduled writing assignments
- Weekly editing/ revising written work
- Journal writing
- Focal Correction Areas
- Announced tests on appropriate material

Resources

- Prentice Hall Literature--Silver
- Vocabulary Workshop—Level C, Sadlier—Oxford
- Various literature/poetry resource books
- Thayer Public Library
- Voyages in English 8, Loyola University Press
- Exercises in English 8, Loyola University Press
- John Collins Writing Program
- Daily Oral Language 8, Houghton Mifflin Company
- Various writing/language arts resource books
- www.english-zone.com
- www.scholastic.com
- www.PHSchool.com

Mathematics

Algebra

Goal:

To achieve success in mastering basic algebraic methods as a tool for solving problems

Objectives:

- To help students develop and remember skills and strategies necessary to select a successful approach to any problem
- To prepare students to use algebraic skills and concepts confidently, not only in Mathematics, but in related disciplines and real life situations
- To encourage students in the development of their critical thinking and logical reasoning skills

Whole Year Focus:

- Tools of Algebra
 - Using variables
 - Exponents and order of operations
 - Adding and subtracting real numbers
 - Multiplying and dividing real numbers
 - Distributive property
 - Properties of real numbers
 - The Coordinate plane
- Solving Equations
 - One-step equations
 - Two-step equations
 - Multi-step equations
 - Variables on both sides
 - Formulas

- Measures of central tendency
- Solving Inequalities
 - Inequalities and their graphs
 - Solving equations using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
 - Multi-step inequalities
 - Compound inequalities
 - Absolute value equations and inequalities
- Solving and Applying Proportions
 - Ratio and proportion
 - Proportions and similar figures
 - Proportions and percent equations
 - Percent of change
 - Applying ratios to probability
 - Probability of compound events
- Graphs and Functions
 - Relating graphs to events
 - Relations and functions
 - Function rules, tables, and graphs
 - Writing a function rule
 - Direct variation
 - Describing number patterns
- Linear Equations and their Graphs
 - Rate of change and slope
 - Slope-intercept form
 - Standard form
 - Point-slope form
 - Parallel and perpendicular lines
 - Scatter plots and equations of lines
 - Graphing absolute value equations
- Systems of Equations and Inequalities
 - Solving systems by graphing
 - Solving systems using substitution
 - Solving systems using elimination
 - Applications of linear systems
 - Linear inequalities
 - Systems of linear inequalities
- Exponents and Exponential Functions
 - Zero and negative exponents
 - Scientific notation
 - Multiplication of exponents
 - Division of exponents
 - Geometric sequences
 - Exponential functions
 - Exponential growth and decay
- Polynomials and Factoring
 - Adding and subtracting polynomials
 - Multiplying and factoring
 - Multiplying binomials
 - Multiplying special cases
 - Factoring trinomials
 - Factoring special cases
 - Factoring by grouping
- Quadratic Equations and Functions
 - Exploring quadratic graphs
 - Quadratic functions
 - Finding and estimating square roots
 - Solving quadratic equations
 - Factoring to solve quadratic equations
 - Completing the square

Using the quadratic formula
Using the discriminant

- Radical Expressions and Equations
 - Simplifying radicals
 - The Pythagorean theorem
 - Distance and midpoint formulas
 - Operations with radical expressions
 - Solving radical expressions
 - Graphing square root functions
 - Trigonometric ratios
- Rational Expressions and Functions
 - Inverse variation
 - Graphing rational functions
 - Simplifying rational expressions
 - Multiplying and dividing rational expressions
 - Dividing polynomials
 - Adding and subtracting rational expressions
 - Solving rational expressions
 - Counting methods and permutations
 - Combinations

Assessment:

Announced quizzes and tests
Homework assignments given regularly
Effort involved in mastering concepts

Resources:

Algebra I, Prentice Hall
(textbook and workbook)
Selected enrichment activities and projects
Various mathematics resource books

www.PHSchool.com
www.edhelper.com

Science

Goal:

Students will develop the ability to use basic science skills and a command of the skills as an asset in later studies and other subjects. Also students will use their hands and their minds to discover for themselves how and why things work the way they do.

Objectives:

- Through a range of experiences make use of all the senses in the science – learning process.
- Learn to be a critical observer of events and process.
- To possess the skills to think critically, conduct careful experiments and draw reasonable conclusions.
- To enhance self-discovery of science principles with real-life examples from home, school or community.
- To think in new ways and help connect the new things that are learned.
- To develop interpersonal skills through cooperative learning this fosters academic, personal and social success.

Whole Year Focus:

Chemical Science

- Early Discoveries
- A Model Atom
- Conservation of Matter
- Structure of the Periodic Table
- Families of Elements
- Periods of Elements
- Physical and Chemical Changes
- Kinds of Chemical Bonds
- Chemical Shorthand

- Balancing Chemical Equations
- Chemical Reactions
- Organic Chemistry

Life Science

- Nutrients: The Spice of Life
- Digestion: A Disassembly Line
- Blood: Transporter of Life
- Blood: The Body's Defense
- How Organisms Get Their Traits
- Mendel's Work Explained
- Mendel's Work Refined
- How Do Gene's Control Traits?
- Raw Materials of Evolution
- How Evolution Works
- Evidence of Evolution
- Classification of Organisms
- Lower Kingdoms: Monera, Protista, and Fungi
- Bacteria and Viruses
- Body Systems
 - Immune
 - Reproductive
 - Endocrine

Physical Science

- Forces and Electrical Charges
- Electrical Charge and Carriers
- Making Electricity Flow
- Resistance, Current, and Voltage
- Common Electrical Circuits
- The Small World of Electronics
- Electrical Power and Energy
 - Nuclear
 - Chemical
- Fluid Forces
- Archimedes Principle
- Bernoulli's Principle

Earth Science

- The Moving Continents
- Sea-Floor Spreading
 - Colliding Plates
 - Dynamic Earth
 - Mapping the Earth
 - Earth Structure
 - Earth Systems

- Fossils
- Dating Rock Layers
- Early, Middle, and Recent Earth History
- The Solar System
- The Gaseous Giants
- Other Objects in the Solar System
- Observing Stars
- The Sun
- Galaxies
- Ecosystems
- Biomes

Assessment of Goals and

Objectives:

- Assessments using different learning skills such as recognition and recall of facts and vocabulary.
- Interpretation of information and use of higher levels of critical thinking.
- Yearly Science Fair that stresses application of the Scientific Method.

Resources:

- Science Interactions – Glencoe-Macmillan, McGraw-Hill
- Videos
- Transparencies, Charts, Models
- Web Sites:
 1. www.ufrsd.net/staffwww/stefanl/webquest/Atoms/index.htm
 2. www.nclark.net/Chemistry#Chemical%20Reactions
 3. www.citationmachine.net
 4. web.buddyproject.org/web017/web017/quest.html

5.owl.english.purdue.edu/
handouts/research/r_ml
a.html
6.66.144.52.119/chester/i
ndex.html

Social Studies

American History (1914 – 1990)

Goal:

For students to acquire a greater knowledge of American history and to grow in their development of important reading, writing, and social studies skills

Objectives:

- To understand the role of historical events in the shaping of today's society
- To develop a multi-cultural perspective that respects the dignity and worth of all people
- To be familiar with the economic goals, performance, and problems of our society

Whole year Focus:

Becoming a World Power

- Calls for Reform (1876-1914)
- America Looks Overseas (1865-1916)
- World War I (1914-1919)

A Troubled Time

- The Roaring Twenties (1919-1929)
- The Great Depression (1929-1941)
- World War II (1935-1945)

Our Nation Today

- America in the Fifties (1945-1960)
- Years of Protest and Change (1960-1980)
- Challenges of the 1980s and 1990s (1980-present)
- Pioneers of Today and Tomorrow

Assessment of Goals and Objectives:

- Topics will be discussed and reflected upon, both in class and as assigned homework
- In addition to the text, handouts and worksheets will be given for both, in class and homework assignments
- Outside research projects will be assigned (nature of projects will vary including Power Point Presentations)
- Weekly discussions of Current Events keeping students aware of the world around them (students will keep a notebook for their current event articles)
- Testing will occur regularly and will be announced with adequate time for preparation

Resources:

- The American Nation, Prentice Hall
- Daily Geography Grade 8, Houghton Mifflin Company
- Various history/social studies resource books
- Alternate readings and handouts (teacher selected)
- Grade 8 Washington, D.C. Trip
- www.PHSchool.com

