

Seventh Grade Curriculum Snapshot

The 7th grade curriculum is centered on the transitions that young Christian adolescents experience as well as preparing them for the future. “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6 Helping students learn and know that Christ is and will continue to be the center of their lives spiritually, academically, socially, and physically is the focus of seventh grade at St. John’s.

Religion

- Units: God and His Word, The Holy Spirit Blesses the Church (3rd Article), God the Father’s Gracious Gifts (1st Article), Jesus Brings Salvation (2nd Article), Comparison of World Religions
- The Six Chief Parts of Luther’s Small Catechism
- Daily devotions, bi-weekly memory work, student and teacher led prayer throughout the day, weekly all-school chapel
- Participation in the Children’s Christmas Service

Language Arts

- Reading: Novel units including *Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth Speare, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor, and *The Giver* by Lois Lowry; Other literature units focus on nonfiction and drama; Accelerated Reader (AR)
- Writing: Six Traits focus with peer reviews, autobiographical essay, how-to essay, research report, and cause-and-effect essay
- Grammar: Basic sentence parts review, phrases, clauses, effective sentences, using verbs and using pronouns
- Spelling: Monday-pretest, Friday-posttest, usage opportunities throughout the week, synonyms, antonyms, word families, analogies and classical roots activities. Correct spelling expected in final draft of all writing activities
- Handwriting: Lowercase and uppercase cursive and manuscript letters practiced; neat, legible cursive is expected on all assignments
- Access to library checkout weekly

Math

- Decimal, fraction, and integer operations
- Algebra: equations, inequalities including graphing, and functions including graphing
- Ratios, proportions, and percents
- Geometry: polygons area, similarity and transformations
- Surface area and volume of cylinders and prisms
- Probability: permutations, combinations, dependent and independent events

Pre-Algebra (Common Core aligned)

- Expressions and Formulas: Understanding Numbers and Absolute Value, Variables, Comparing and Ordering Integers, Evaluating and Writing Expressions, Formula for Perimeter, Area of Rectangles and Circles, Simple Interest
- Integers and Monomials
- Solving Equations
- Exponents and Polynomials
- Functions and Graphs, Systems and Equations
- Inequalities, Roots and Proportions
- Factoring and Quadratic Equations

Science

- Human Biology: Cells, Organs, Systems. Bones, Muscles, Skin, Building a Prosthetic Hand, Food and Digestion, Circulation, Respiration and Excretion, Diseases, The Nervous System, The Endocrine System and Reproduction
- Bacteria and Plants: Living Things, Viruses and Bacteria, Protists and Fungi, Plants, Seed Plants, Yogurt Lab
- Cells and Heredity: Cell Structure and Function, Cell Processes and Energy, Genetics
- Animals: Sponges, Cnidarians and Worms; Mollusks, Arthropods, and Echinoderms; Fishes, Amphibians, and Reptiles; Birds and Mammals; Dissection Lab
- Health: Choices for healthy bodies/lives, physical growth, growth, social growth
- Robert Crown field trip on healthy life choices and reproduction in alternating years
- Health topics covered through *Choices* magazine
- American Heart Association CPR and First Aid learned in alternating years

Social Studies

- U.S. History from prehistory through the Civil War
- Build a Colony group project
- U.S. and IL Constitution unit and tests
- Class trip with 8th grade to Springfield, IL and Washington, D.C. in alternating years

Technology

- Algebraic calculators
- Internet research
- Ethical use of data
- Presentation applications
- Research skills
- Essays, projects, and other assignments using Google Docs

Music

- Junior Choir twice weekly
- Singing at Sunday worship at St. John's Lutheran Church once per month
- Extra curricular handbell opportunity
- Extra curricular band and strings opportunity

Art

- Art History - What is the Purpose of Art?
- Creating Depth - Chiaroscuro, Architecture and Arches, Domes and Cupolas
- Composition, Line, Shade, Drawing with Marks
- Expressive Still Life
- Symbols in Art, Icons
- Metaphor and Meaning
- Art in Cultural Context
- Artists: Rembrandt, Van Gogh, Monet
- Understanding and Interpreting Art - Viewing Art Critically

P.E. (daily) conducted by certified P.E. teacher