

Sixth Grade



"My mission is to teach all students about the world that God has given us and to combine social studies lessons with Christianity so students can apply social studies to their daily lives."

Mr. Wellna, teacher.

RELIGION

Sixth grade religion focuses on the history of the Bible through the use of the **Christ Light** curriculum by NPH and the **Bible**. Study includes:

- ◆ New Testament stories are covered focusing on the life of Jesus and the gift of salvation

READING

Curriculum stems from **Literature** by **Prentice Hall**. Students read a number of different types of writing and focus on comprehension strategies and vocabulary. Trade books are also used. Students are required to complete twelve book reports throughout the year and have a spelling lesson each week.

SCIENCE

Earth Science is the focus, using text by **Holt McDougal** called **Science Fusion**. Topics covered include:

- ◆ Rocks and Minerals
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Earthquakes & volcanoes
- ◆ Weather
- ◆ The solar system

In the fall the students go to Riveredge Nature Center to study the Milwaukee River.

TECHNOLOGY

Sixth grade is in the first of three years of **Learning with Computers** by **Thompson-Southwestern**. National Education Technology Standards (NETS) are met. Course work includes:

- ◆ Microsoft Excel
- ◆ Microsoft PowerPoint
- ◆ Microsoft Word
- ◆ SMART Board Technology
- ◆ Web research

EXPOSITORY WRITING

This course has a two-fold purpose: literary analysis and research. Sixth grade students examine the issues surrounding the Civil Rights Movement while studying *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In World History and Culture, the goal is for the students to understand other cultures and learn about each part of the globe. Through a new **Glencoe/McGraw Hill** curriculum we offer students:

- ◆ Books on CD-Rom
- ◆ SMART Board technology
- ◆ Varied assessments
- ◆ Project based learning

ENGLISH

Using the **Strategies for Writers** curriculum and supplements, students are guided through the stages of the writing process while focusing on specific styles – narrative, informative and explanatory, and argument. Students are provided written models for each piece as well as direct instruction and opportunities for practice with each of the six traits of writing. Published literature samples, teacher modeling, and student journaling allow for intentional grammar instruction. In a writing workshop format, students are not only given the time to write and receive feedback, but strategies to strengthen the effectiveness of their writing.

MATH

St. Paul teaches **Saxon Math** throughout our middle school.

- ◆ Algebraic thinking is embedded throughout the curriculum to build a solid foundation that links arithmetic to algebra
- ◆ Skills and concepts are kept alive through daily practice
- ◆ Math connections are strengthened and made meaningful
- ◆ Content is mastered through small increments and then followed by practice, review and assessment

ART

Students receive instruction in a variety of art mediums and styles. These styles are learned by studying past and present day artists. A sketchbook is used in class to help the students plan and sketch their projects and to take notes on the artists we are studying.

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