



Middle School

Grades 6-8

Social Studies

The 6th graders study physical and political geography of the world. They will study the themes of geography, map parts, and how to read a map and use longitude and latitude in location. Some of the special activities are creating travel brochures and competing in the *Trading Game* demonstrating interdependence.

The 7th graders study World Civilizations from ancient times to the Renaissance and beyond. They will focus on the history, culture, and achievements of different societies throughout time and different areas of the world. A Renaissance Faire is a favorite activity.

The 8th graders study the history of the U.S. from colonization through Reconstruction and beyond. Students study the events, people, and interactions of our history, as well as look at the formation of our government and the structure of our government as set forth in the Constitution. The *1920's Radio Broadcast* and *American Revolution Timeline Tiles* are two popular activities.



Science

Students build upon what they learned in earlier grades and develop understanding of the key concepts of the *Next Generation Science Standards* to help them make sense of Life, Physical, Earth, and Space Science.

Our students spend about 40% of their class time doing lab activities in our new state-of-the-art lab. They develop and use models, plan and conduct investigations, make observations, analyze data, use mathematical and computational thinking, and construct explanations to demonstrate understanding of core ideas. Students are also expected to demonstrate understanding of engineering practices such as design and evaluation by completing STEM projects.

A middle school science fair is held each year. Students research a topic, do a related experiment, and present their conclusions in a display, journal, and presentation.

Language Arts

6th grade students will write on their interpretations of assigned literature (with themes of “Rites of Passage”) in a variety of ways: bellwork/journaling, open-response questions (both in-class and as homework). This class is aimed at finding the logic of decisions made by characters, how they make decisions, and how those decisions lead to future conflicts to further a story.

7th grade students will write on their interpretations of assigned literature (with themes of “otherness”) and the class aim is at finding the logic of decisions made by students themselves as well as characters—and how they make decisions (including the effect of how those decisions lead to future conflicts to further a story).

8th grade students will write on a variety of subjects, including their interpretations of assigned literature (fiction and non-fiction) The theme of most of the work is one’s relationship to “The American Dream”. The focus on academic-styled writing combined with experience of previous years has students ready for high school reading and writing curriculums.



Extracurricular Activities

- Governor’s Cup Academic Team
- Aegean Service Club
- Creative Writing Club
- KYA and KUNA
- Student Council
- Kentucky Jr. Historical Society
- Film Club
- Budgetball
- Y-Club
- Press Corps / News Broadcast
- Math Counts
- Drama Club
- Stock Market Game
- National History Day
- Vintage Gaming Club
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Archery
- Cross-Country/Track & Field

Math

We follow the Archdiocese of Louisville's Curriculum Framework which is based upon recommendations from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Instruction includes appropriate mathematical skills taught through problem solving, communication, reasoning, and connections. Problem solving strategies are infused throughout the school year. The following topics are covered in each grade:

6th Grade:

Numbers and Operations

Whole Numbers, Decimals, Fractions, Ratios

Geometry

Coordinate System, Plane Figures, Solid Figures

Algebra

Order of Operations, Expressions, Exponents, One-Variable Linear Equations, Properties

Data-Analysis and Probability

Graphs, Measures of Central Tendency

7th Grade:

Numbers and Operations

Integers, Rational Numbers, Real Numbers, Percents, Ratios, Exponents, Roots

Geometry

Plane Figures, Solid Figures, Formulas

Algebra

One-variable linear equations, one-variable linear expressions

Data-Analysis and Probability

Probability and Stats, Graphs

8th Grade:

Algebra

Expressions, Equations, Functions, Inequalities, Problem Solving, Probability and Stats



Religion

The Middle School Religion curriculum is centered on the Archdiocese of Louisville's curriculum. We use the RCL Benziger series, *Blest Are We*. The curriculum focuses on the Old Testament in 6th grade, Jesus and the New Testament in 7th, and the Church in 8th grade. We also cover *Theology of the Body*, liturgy planning, service to others, saints, and other topics that are important in living our lives the way God intends.

Through the years spent in Middle School Religion, we work on strengthening our personal relationships with God and living our lives the way Jesus instructed. We discuss how God wants us to live and what we can do to live lives that more closely fit Jesus' example. Students also do various service projects such as collecting cans during the food drive, letters to shut-ins/ Seminarians, and visits to the soup kitchen.

