

# Sixth Grade Curriculum

*Ss. Peter & Paul School*

## RELIGION

Sixth graders will learn through Scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection about their Catholic faith. The religion curriculum is integrated throughout the entire school day.  
*Christ our Life* (Loyola Press)



Students will:

- Study the Old Testament from creation to the prophets
- Recognize the holiness of family life
- Plan and assist in liturgical forms of worship
- Travel to the synagogue as a faith experience
- Perform 15 service to the community

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Throughout the sixth grade language arts program students will:

- Study the eight parts of speech
- Master the use of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs
- Be introduced to prepositions and prepositional phrases
- Use diagramming to reinforce grammar skills
- Use writing as a tool for punctuation
- Research and write interdisciplinary papers with outlines and bibliographies using a variety of sources
- Understand how to perform a proper citation check on their papers.
- Students will use the Sadlier vocabulary program and increase their speaking and writing vocabulary.

## Reading

The sixth grade reading program goals are to:

- Foster a love of reading through high interest novels
- Offer novels at different reading levels
- Review the relationship between cause and effect
- Introduce the students to the classics
- Teach the evaluation of fact and opinion
- Review the elements of plot
- Teach the application of word analysis and vocabulary skills

## MATHEMATICS

Through the use of McGraw-Hill mathematics, our sixth grade math program is “grounded in the belief that all students should learn important mathematical concepts and processes with understanding.” The algebraic approach is a major thrust during the year.

The mathematical concepts covered in sixth grade are:

- Add and subtract decimals
- Multiply and divide decimals
- Data analysis
- Number theory and fraction concepts
- Add and subtract fractions
- Multiply and divide fractions
- Measurement conversions involving customary, metric, and between the systems
- Functions and equations
- Integers and rational numbers
- Geometry
- Perimeter, area, and volume
- Ratio and proportion
- Percents
- Probability

## SCIENCE

Sixth grade science primarily covers a variety of topics in earth science, using the text *Exploring Earth Science* (Prentice Hall). Topics we cover include:

The basics of science, who is a scientist, experiments and the “scientific method”

- Mapping the earth’s surface; types and properties of rocks and minerals, how they are formed, and their uses; the rock cycle; plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes
- Weathering, erosion and glaciers as forces of change
- Weathering and erosion
- Astronomy and weather
- The basics of chemistry and chemical reactions

Special activities include learning about mummification, CSI techniques, building parachutes to drop a load, and violent weather safety. Students take turns reporting on an "Invention of the Week," finding news items about new inventions in science, technology and medicine.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Sixth Graders will be introduced to:

- A coverage of world history
- The opportunity to learn at all reading levels
- Global issues
- Ancient civilizations
- The concept of becoming an informed citizen in a democratic society
- Use of computer technology to enhance subject area learning

## FINE ARTS

### Art

All students in grades 1-8 will be taught the language of the arts, understand how works of art are produced through creating and performing and understand the role of the arts in civilizations past and present.

Grade 6 students will focus on the following art elements:

- Reinforcement of understanding and use of art elements

- Development of personal creativity
- Role of the arts in past and present cultures, Ancient Egyptian and African art
- The work of artist Faith Ringgold

## **Music**

All students will be given the opportunity to perform on stage in the school musical.

In sixth grade students will have the opportunity to perform in band concerts and march in parades.

Concert Band students will:

- Play musical instruments in a group setting
- Read musical notes and symbols
- Learn more advanced music theory concepts
- March in a parade

## **SPANISH**

The sixth grade foreign language students will be able to:

- Introduce themselves and others
- Follow simple instructions in the target language
- Expand their written and oral vocabulary to include school, daily activities, food and sports
- Tell time in the target language
- Read and write numbers to 100
- Use appropriate punctuation and capitalization when writing in the target language
- Identify adjectives – form, position, agreement
- Talk about their likes and dislikes
- Conjugate regular –AR verbs and the irregular verb SER in present tense
- Compare word use, phrasing and simple sentence structure in English and Spanish
- Participate in pair and group activities and games conversing in the Spanish language
- Learn about the culture, currency, and geography of Spain and Mexico
- Compare with their own experiences the special celebrations, events and customs associated with several Mexican holidays

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Students will:

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship in all activities
- Understand principles and components of health-related fitness
- Study efficient and inefficient movement patterns
- Learn basic knowledge of the Fitness Center and physical fitness
- Review rules and strategies
- Continue skill development

## **TECHNOLOGY**

Technology is incorporated with class curriculum and infused as a tool throughout. Teachers and students will use the ELMO and SMARTBoard for demonstrations and interactive learning. During sixth grade the students will be introduced to and master the following skills:

- Attach peripherals to a computer
- Add music or sound effect CD audio to multimedia project
- Incorporate hyperlinks, format backgrounds, work with textboxes, custom animations, transitions, videos, and buttons into presentations
- Complete WebQuest activities using graphic organizers to organizer information and complete diverse learning activities.
- Work cooperatively in groups to solve problems and create collaborative electronic projects
- Develop desktop published newsletters in cooperative groups after researching information to reinforce Social Studies curriculum
- Create and evaluate Venn diagrams with auto-shape tools in a word processing program
- Access and save documents to a specified folder across the local area network
- Create charts from data in a spreadsheet
- Use graphic organizers to plan projects
- Use a draw program to combine, blend, and recolor photographic objects



## HOMEWORK

Sixth graders will be assigned homework as needed for practice and reinforcement as well as completion of special projects. On an average sixth grade students can expect 105 minutes of homework daily.

## PROJECT EXPLORE

Project Explore is a course of activities and studies intended for those students whose academic abilities and habits are such that they are able to master their required core subjects and have the time, energy, and willingness to go beyond. The focus of activities over the span of three years will be:

- The furthering of intellectual curiosity
- Academic independence
- Higher order thinking skills
- Advanced problem-solving techniques
- Formal writing
- Advanced vocabulary
- Oral Presentation skills