

Grade 8 Curriculum Overview

RELIGION

- **Our Sunday Visitor**- Alive in Christ Grade 8
- Weekly Sunday Gospel reflections
- School & Community service
- Liturgy Involvement

LANGUAGE ARTS

- **Pearson My Perspectives** ELA/Literacy program aligned to the Common Core ELA Standards
 - Encompasses Vocabulary, Grammar, Spelling, Composition, and Reading Comprehension through fictional, non-fictional, and informational text
 - Exposure to multiple literary skills and genres
- Accelerated Reader Program – Personalized goals for independent reading practice ●
- **Writing By Design** writing program aligned to the Common Core ELA Standards
 - Provides writing strategies to compose informational, narrative, summary, and argumentative text

MATHEMATICS

- Curriculum aligned with the Common Core Math Standards for Grade 8 and Algebra 1
- Two courses: Grade 8 Math (grade-level) and Algebra 1 (advanced)
- Grade 8 Math: number sense; rational and irrational numbers; radicals and exponents; expressions, equations, and inequalities; linear functions; geometry; statistics & probability; problem-solving
- Algebra 1: number and quantity; expressions, equations, inequalities, and polynomials; linear, quadratic, and exponential functions; statistics and probability, interpreting categorical and quantitative data; problem-solving.
- Daily Skill Reinforcement with Simple Solutions Common Core Math
- ALEKS - Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces, web-based resource

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Exploration: Age of Exploration, Rise of Modern Capitalism, The Enlightenment ● Road to Independence: American Colonies, Diversity in the Colonies, Conflict with the British, Revolutionary War
- A More Perfect Union: Articles of Confederation, Convention and Compromise, US Constitution ● US Government: Goals of the Constitution, Federal Government, Branches of the Government, Powers, and Limitations, Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities
- Federalist Era: Early Presidents and Challenges, The First Political Parties
 - Jefferson Era: Republicanism, Expansion of the US- Louisiana Purchase, Life in Early America

SCIENCE

- Hands-On Experiments
- Integration of Science, Engineering, and Technology
- Laboratory Techniques
- STEM Practices
- NGSS Aligned Curriculum
- Structure and Properties of Matter
- Atoms and Bonding
- Chemical Reactions
- Waves and Their Applications
- Energy
- Human Body Systems and Health
- Individual and Group Science Project

SPANISH

- SOMOS: Comprehensible Input and TPR based curriculum (using grammar in context)
- Autentico: Aligned with the World Language Standards
- Pobre Ana: TPRS novel (culture)
- Story-telling

TECHNOLOGY & MAKERSPACE

- Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship - Online Safety, Cyberbullying, Copyright, Social Networking
- Computing Basics - iPad Basics, Apps, Keyboarding and mouse skills, Drawing, Word Processing, Presentation, Spreadsheet, Movie production, Graphics
- Information Literacy - Internet search and browsing, Online login, Bookmarking pages, Research, Online tests, Citation
- Project-Based Learning - Cross-curricular
- Computational Thinking - Coding, Robotics, Websites
- Engineering & Design Process

MUSIC

- Continue to play and expand their chord repertoire on the ukulele.
- Actively listen to different genres of music and write about their musical observations.
- Gain an understanding of the basic elements of music and have the opportunity to apply those elements through project-based assignments using their iPads.

ENRICHMENT CURRICULUM

- HSPT- High School Placement Test preparation, overview and testing strategies ●
- Class trip to Washington DC
- Science Fair
- High School Information Visits
- Student Council
- PAL league sports
- Art
- PE
- Electives