



Evangelical Lutheran Church, School and Childcare
6023 S. 27th St., Greenfield, WI 53221
(414) 282-7500 fax: (414) 282-9737 OurFathersLutheran.org

Preschool Curriculum

RELIGION

Bible lessons are based on a 3 year's series. Bible stories span biblical history from creation through early years of the Christian church and follow the church year calendar. Students will hear a Bible story daily using simply illustrated pictures. Students will learn by heart the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, and The Lord's Prayer. Students will recite the Bible verse of the week and sing a hymn. Children will participate in chapel on Wednesday mornings.

MATHEMATICS

Students will study number recognition and formation, number sequence, rote counting, one-to-one correspondence, shapes, colors, sorting, and patterns. Children will work with various manipulatives to reinforce the skills that need to be learned. They will apply those skills on a daily practice worksheet under the guidance of the teacher.

READING

Children will be read to daily and will hear a variety of stories throughout the year. Our stories are carefully selected and follow the recommendations of the Core Knowledge Sequence. Students will listen attentively and participate in the discussion of various books. Students will learn to recognize all upper and lower-case letters of the alphabet along with the corresponding sound. These sounds will be practiced throughout the year in variety of ways. Students will visit the school library once a week.

WRITING

Using the program Handwriting Without Tears, students will learn to form and write all the upper-case letters.

ART

Students will create their own works of art using a variety of materials. Children are encouraged to work independently after instruction from the teacher. Art projects will vary depending on the season of the year. Children will use a variety of paints, glue, markers, scissors, construction paper and other materials.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Children play daily on the playground or in the gym. Children need time to run, jump, explore, and create their own fun. Students will naturally work to develop large motor skills in speed, balance, and coordination.

MUSIC

Preschool attends music class with a specialist twice per week. Our music classes are driven by the concept of Music Learning Theory, which states that since music is a language, a child should learn to speak that language before writing it. Students sing and play many songs appropriate for their age along with simple actions, games, and dances. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair.



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Kindergarten Curriculum

RELIGION

The lessons are based on 3 year selected, sequential Bible stories that span biblical history from creation through early years of the Christian church and follow the church year calendar. Students memorize various portions of Luther's Small Catechism as well as selected hymns and Bible passages. Students participate in weekly chapel services.

MATHEMATICS

Students will work on mastery of addition and subtraction facts; learn to tell time to the half hour, measure using inches, feet, and centimeters; count pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters; identify polygons and geometric solids; and much more. New concepts are introduced incrementally and continuously reviewed throughout the year. Daily meetings allow students to practice skills from telling time and temperature to counting money and problem solving.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will learn to read through five key components: phonological awareness, phonics and decoding fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. They will be immersed in reading and writing daily as they work toward becoming confident, fluent readers. Students visit the school library each week.

SCIENCE

The students will investigate the laws of nature as God created them. Students will be exposed to science topics related to life science, earth science and physical science. Specifically, we are exploring the human body and five senses, investigating healthy habits, identifying characteristics of pets, examining characteristics of objects, exploring forces that move objects, observing the growth of plants, identifying living and non-living things, and identifying seasons and weather conditions.

ART

Students are introduced to the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students meet in the gym or on the playground. Activities are largely individual in nature and aim to develop large motor skills and muscle control. They are centered on fitness activities, movement exploration, rhythmic activities, and games.

MUSIC

Kindergarten attends music class twice per week. Our music classes are driven by the concept of Music Learning Theory, which states that since music is a language, a child should learn to speak that language before writing it. Students sing and play many songs appropriate for their age along with simple actions, games, and dances. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair.



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First Grade Curriculum

RELIGION

The lessons are based on 3 year selected, sequential Bible stories that span biblical history from creation through early years of the Christian church and follow the church year calendar. Students will learn from memory the parts of Luther's Small Catechism as well as selected hymns and Bible passages that flow from the lessons and catechism study. Students will participate in weekly chapel services.

MATHEMATICS

Addition and subtraction facts, time and money, measurements, geometry, patterns, and fractions are all emphasized in first grade. Students will practice and memorize addition and subtraction math facts using flashcards, practice pages, and online games. Students will use manipulatives to help them understand abstract math concepts.

READING

Students will build on their previous instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension through daily reading and writing. Students will be instructed in small groups, according to ability level. Teacher read aloud of both fiction and nonfiction texts will be used to highlight specific skills and strategies. Students will then focus on the skills and use the strategies when reading on their own. Students will visit the school library each week.

GRAMMAR/WRITING

Students learn parts of speech and work on writing sentences using nouns, pronouns, verbs, and adjectives. Capitalization and punctuation are emphasized during writing time. Handwriting is taught so correct formation of upper- and lower-case letters is attained.

SPELLING

Students learn to spell words that match the patterns they are learning during reading instruction. Patterns include short and long vowels, digraphs, and consonant blends. Students work with words daily and are assessed weekly.

HANDWRITING

The students learn pencil grip and letter formation (upper and lower-case), using the Handwriting Without Tears multisensory approach. Students will use correct letter formation in their writing across the curriculum.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students explore big ideas in geography, world history, American history, and modern civilizations and culture. Trade books enhance this learning by helping students relate to what they are learning through stories.

SCIENCE

The students will investigate the laws of nature as God created them. Students will be exposed to science topics related to life science, earth science and physical science. Teacher led reading, discussion, and



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investigations will be done throughout the school year. Students will conduct science explorations in class. Students will see science as an appreciation of God's creation.

ART

Art is essential to the young child. It is self-esteeming because it speaks to the uniqueness of each child. Students will use the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students meet in the gym or on the playground. Group games and activities aim to develop various individual skills. Games of low organization continue to be played as well as introducing team games which involve rules and directions. Work to develop qualities of vigor, strength, speed, rhythm, balance, agility and endurance.

MUSIC

First grade attends music class with a specialist twice per week. Our music classes are driven by the concept of Music Learning Theory, which states that since music is a language, a child should learn to speak that language before writing it. Students sing and play many songs appropriate for their age along with simple actions, games, and dances. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair.



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Second Grade Curriculum

RELIGION

The lessons are based on 3 year selected, sequential Bible stories that span biblical history from creation through early years of the Christian church and follow the church year calendar. Students will learn from memory the parts of Luther's Small Catechism as well as selected hymns and Bible passages that flow from the lessons and catechism study. Students will participate in weekly chapel services.

MATHEMATICS

The math concepts of time and money, measurement, geometry, patterns, and fractions are all reviewed and built upon during second grade. Addition and subtraction facts are reviewed regularly to develop quick recall. Multiplication and division are introduced. Students use manipulatives to help them understand abstract math concepts.

READING

Students continue to build on their previous instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension through daily reading and writing. Individual reading time of teacher-guided, self-selected books prepares students to be lifelong readers. Students will be instructed in small groups, according to ability level. Teacher read aloud of both fiction and nonfiction texts will be used to highlight specific skills and strategies. Students will then focus on the skills and use the strategies when reading on their own. Students will visit the school library each week.

GRAMMAR/WRITING

Students learn parts of speech and work on writing sentences and paragraphs using nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Capitalization and punctuation are emphasized during writing time. Handwriting is taught so correct formation of upper- and lower-case letters is attained.

SPELLING

Students learn to spell words that match the patterns they are learning during reading instruction. Patterns include short and long vowels, digraphs, consonant blends, and vowel pairs. Students work with words daily and are assessed weekly.

HANDWRITING

The students review letter formation (upper and lower-case), using the Handwriting Without Tears multisensory approach, and practice using it in words and sentences. Students will use correct letter formation in their writing across the curriculum.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students explore big ideas in geography, world history, American history, ancient and modern civilizations and culture. Trade books enhance this learning by helping students relate to what they are learning through stories.



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SCIENCE

The students will investigate the laws of nature as God created them. Students will be exposed to science topics related to life science, earth science and physical science. Teacher led reading, discussion, and investigations will be done throughout the school year. Students will conduct science explorations in class. Students will see science as an appreciation of God's creation.

ART

Art is essential to the young child. It is self-esteeming because it speaks to the uniqueness of each child. Students will use the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students meet in the gym or on the playground. Group games and activities aim to develop various individual skills. Games of low organization continue to be played as well as introducing team games which involve rules and directions. Students will work to develop qualities of vigor, strength, speed, rhythm, balance, agility and endurance.

MUSIC

Second grade attends music class with a specialist twice per week. Our music classes are driven by the concept of Music Learning Theory, which states that since music is a language, a child should learn to speak that language before writing it. Students sing and play many songs appropriate for their age along with simple actions, games, and dances. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair.



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Third Grade Curriculum

RELIGION

The lessons are based on 3 year selected, sequential Bible stories that span biblical history from creation through early years of the Christian church and follow the church year calendar. Students will participate and learn to read from the Bible. Students will learn from memory the parts of Luther's Small Catechism as well as selected hymns and Bible passages that flow from the lessons and catechism study.

MATHEMATICS

Addition and subtraction facts, time and money, multiplication, measurements, division facts, shapes, and fractions. Practicing and memorizing math facts is essential at this grade level.

READING

A love of reading is taught and encouraged. Building reading confidence through phoneme practice, repetition, and interesting content - many important skills are taught. Books are read by the class that help improve comprehension, fluency, and expression.

ENGLISH

Language will be taught through mechanics usage and grammar skills. Writing includes writing and illustrating stories, book reports, research paragraphs, persuasive writing, letters, and instructions. Students will write using sentence form. Students will learn how to organize and write paragraphs.

SPELLING

Spelling builds on the phonological base learned through reading practice. Words are presented as a tool for communication of thoughts and ideas. We emphasize spelling rules and highlight the need to memorize exceptions. Students work with their words in a variety of activities.

HANDWRITING

Students will review manuscript letters and then move on to cursive writing. Handwriting is a very important form of communication. Students will use cursive handwriting in most classwork writing by the end of the school year.

SOCIAL STUDIES

We examine world history, geography, civics, economics, and culture. Topics covered include Vikings, Ancient Rome, Medieval Europe, Africa, and China dynasties.

SCIENCE

The students will investigate the laws of nature as God created them. Students will be exposed to science topics related to life science, earth science and physical science. Specifically, we are studying astronomy, chemistry, physics, meteorology, geology, botany, and zoology. Teacher led reading, discussion, and investigations will be done throughout the school year to help students see science as an appreciation of God's creation.



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ART

Students will use the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will begin focusing on composition of artwork with an introduction to the Principles of Design (Emphasis, Balance, Movement, Pattern, Contrast, Unity, and Rhythm). Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Group games and activities aim to develop various individual skills. Games of low organization continue to be played as well as introducing team games, including basketball, relays, which involve rules and directions. Students will practice developing qualities of vigor, strength, speed, rhythm, balance, agility and endurance.

MUSIC

Third grade attends music class twice per week. Students experience music from a variety of cultures through singing, playing instruments, moving, and listening. Classes emphasize learning to sight-read and dictate simple rhythmic and melodic patterns using standard musical notation. Students participate in the School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair.



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Fourth Grade Curriculum

RELIGION

The lessons are based on 3 year selected, sequential Bible stories that span biblical history from creation through early years of the Christian church and follow the church year calendar. Students will participate and learn to read from the Bible. Students will learn from memory the parts of Luther's Small Catechism as well as selected hymns and Bible passages that flow from the lessons and catechism study.

MATHEMATICS

Addition and subtraction facts, time and money, 2-digit multiplication, patterns and expressions, measurements, division & long division, shapes, and fractions and decimals, data, graphs, and probability. Math Practice is completed in a math journal from the textbook almost every day. Practicing and memorizing math facts is critical for future success in math.

ENGLISH

Language will be taught through mechanics usage and grammar skills. Writing includes writing and illustrating stories, book reports, a research report, opinion writing, letters, and instructions. Students will write using sentence form. Students will learn how to organize and write a full-page report.

SPELLING

Spelling builds on the phonological base learned through reading practice. Words are presented as a tool for communication of thoughts and ideas. We emphasize spelling rules and highlight the need to memorize exceptions. Students work with their words in a variety of activities.

HANDWRITING

Students will review manuscript and then move on to cursive writing. Handwriting is a very important form of communication. Students will use cursive handwriting in most writing most of the school year.

SOCIAL STUDIES

We examine social studies within the framework of U.S. and Wisconsin history, geography, civics, economics, and culture. History topics include the 13 colonies, the American Revolution, The U.S. Constitution and early Presidents, and a brief overview of Wisconsin History up to the Civil War. Students complete various projects throughout the year. Students learn how Social Studies applies to their life and how they can use their voice in a proper way to be an active citizen.

SCIENCE

The students will investigate the laws of nature as God created them. Students will be exposed to science topics related to life science, earth science and physical science. Specifically, we are studying biology, botany, zoology, ecology, and physics. Teacher led reading, discussion, and investigations will be done throughout the school year. Students will conduct science explorations in class. Students will see science as an appreciation of God's creation.

ART

Students will use the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will begin focusing on composition of artwork with an



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introduction to the Principles of Design (Emphasis, Balance, Movement, Pattern, Contrast, Unity, and Rhythm). Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Group games and activities aim to develop various individual skills. Games of low organization continue to be played as well as introducing team games, including basketball, relays, which involve rules and directions. Students will practice developing qualities of vigor, strength, speed, rhythm, balance, agility and endurance.

MUSIC

Fourth grade attends music class twice per week. Students experience music from a variety of cultures through singing, playing instruments, moving, and listening. Classes emphasize learning to sight-read and dictate simple rhythmic and melodic patterns using standard musical notation. Students participate in the School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair.



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Fifth Grade Curriculum

DEVOTIONS

We begin and end each day with a school-wide devotion over the intercom as we say together the Bible verse and catechism for the week and sing together the weekly hymn verse.

In class, the morning devotions are based on the text Bible Stories for Daily Prayer, a 3-year program of selected sequential Bible stories that span Biblical history from Creation through early years of the Christian church, including church year stories and catechism stories.

CATECHESIS

Pastor Fabrizio goes through the text Lutheran Catechesis (Catechumen Edition) with the students over a two-year period, engaging the children in lively discussion as they read from the Bible and discuss the texts.

MATHEMATICS

The fifth graders use enVision math to review addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts and properties. They continue to work with time and money, measurements, geometry, fractions, and decimals. They also explore ratios, percentages, and algebraic problem solving.

READING

Our independent reading program prepares the children to be life-long readers. The students choose their own books, reading their way through different genres as we work on comprehension strategies and literary elements. The students learn to discuss their reading material using accurate literary terms for plot elements, literary devices, and characterization. Non-fiction choices correlate with the students' personal interests and help them build on basic strategies for reading and analyzing nonfiction text. A teacher read-aloud session each day frames daily instruction and exposes the students to a wide variety of good literature.

ENGLISH

Our English units integrate grammar, writing, and reading as the students work to master the conventions of the English language while developing an imaginative and organized writing craft in a variety of writing forms through a process of rehearsal, drafting, revision, and editing. The writing forms include narrative, descriptive, expository, informative, and persuasive writing, as well as stories and poems. The students also practice excellent writing by copying rich texts.

SPELLING 5

The fifth-grade spelling curriculum uses All About Spelling, Level 6, to guide the children through spelling instruction that includes key spelling strategies for tricky words, as well as ways to remember special letter combinations and patterns using phonetic, visual, and rule-based strategies. The dictation aspect of the spelling pretest trains the students to listen to, repeat, and record well-crafted sentences.

HISTORY

Students in grade 5 and 6 use the Core Knowledge Sequence curriculum, alternating each year between the two grade levels. One year they study topics such as the French Revolution, Ancient Greece and



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Rome, the Industrial Revolution, and more. In the alternate year, they study such topics as The Renaissance, The Reformation, Early Russia, Feudal Japan, The U.S. Civil War and more.

SCIENCE

The students in grades 5 and 6 alternate their study each year. In one year, they use Nancy Larson Science. In the Nancy Larson series, the students are scientists as they study astronomy, chemistry, earth systems, laws of force & motion, and tools & machines. There are many hands-on experiments to allow students to learn and discover these areas. In the alternate year they use the Glencoe Science curriculum where they are introduced to such topics as life's classifications, plants, animals, ecosystems, energy, and matter.

ART

Students will use the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will focus on composition of artwork while using the Principles of Design (Emphasis, Balance, Movement, Pattern, Contrast, Unity, and Rhythm). Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in grades 5-8 share gym classes twice a week. They participate in a variety of activities that work on their hand-eye coordination, teamwork and team strategies, and overall physical fitness.

MUSIC

Fifth grade attends music class with a specialist twice per week. Students experience music from a variety of cultures through singing, playing instruments, moving, and listening. Classes emphasize learning to sight-read and dictate intermediate rhythmic and melodic patterns using standard musical notation. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair. Fifth grade students may also choose to participate in the school band.



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Sixth Grade Curriculum

DEVOTIONS

We begin and end each day with a school-wide devotion over the intercom as we say together the Bible verse and catechism for the week and sing together the weekly hymn verse.

In class, the morning devotions are based on the text Bible Stories for Daily Prayer, a 3-year program of selected sequential Bible stories that span Biblical history from Creation through early years of the Christian church, including church year stories and catechism stories.

CATECHESIS

Pastor Fabrizio goes through the text Lutheran Catechesis (Catechumen Edition) with the students over a two-year period, engaging the children in lively discussion as they read from the Bible and discuss the texts.

MATHEMATICS

The sixth graders use enVision math to review addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts and properties. They continue to work with time and money, measurements, geometry, fractions, decimals, ratios, percentages, and algebraic problem solving. They also work with statistics and probability.

READING 6

Our independent reading program prepares the children to be life-long readers. The students choose their own books, reading their way through different genres as we work on comprehension strategies and literary elements. The students learn to discuss their reading material using accurate literary terms for plot elements, literary devices, and characterization. Non-fiction choices correlate with the students' personal interests and help them build on basic strategies for reading and analyzing nonfiction text. A teacher read-aloud session each day frames daily instruction and exposes the students to a wide variety of good literature.

ENGLISH 6

Our English units integrate grammar, writing, and reading as the students work to master the conventions of the English language while developing an imaginative and organized writing craft in a variety of writing forms through a process of rehearsal, drafting, revision, and editing. The writing forms include narrative, descriptive, expository, informative, and persuasive writing, as well as stories and poems. The students also practice excellent writing by copying rich texts.

SPELLING 6

The sixth-grade spelling curriculum uses All About Spelling, Level 7, to guide the children through spelling instruction that continues the study (from fifth grade) of common spelling patterns and then introduces morphemic strategies that help children spell words with Latin and Greek roots, as well as words "borrowed" from the French, Spanish, and Italian languages. The dictation aspect of the spelling pretest trains the students to listen to, repeat, and record well-crafted sentences.



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HISTORY

Students in grade 5 and 6 use the Core Knowledge Sequence curriculum, alternating each year between the two grade levels. One year they study topics such as the French Revolution, Ancient Greece and Rome, the Industrial Revolution, and more. In the alternate year, they study such topics as The Renaissance, The Reformation, Early Russia, Feudal Japan, The U.S. Civil War and more.

SCIENCE

The students in grades 5 and 6 alternate their study each year. In one year, they use Nancy Larson Science. In the Nancy Larson series, the students are scientists as they study astronomy, chemistry, earth systems, laws of force & motion, and tools & machines. There are many hands-on experiments to allow students to learn and discover these areas. In the alternate year they use the Glencoe Science curriculum where they are introduced to such topics as life's classifications, plants, animals, ecosystems, energy, and matter.

ART

Students will use the Elements of Design (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) in creation of two and three-dimensional artwork. Students will focus on composition of artwork while using the Principles of Design (Emphasis, Balance, Movement, Pattern, Contrast, Unity, and Rhythm). Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will receive direct, hands-on instruction while fostering their creativity. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in grades 5-8 share gym classes twice a week. They participate in a variety of activities that work on their hand-eye coordination, teamwork and team strategies, and overall physical fitness.

MUSIC

Sixth grade attends music class with a specialist twice per week. Students experience music from a variety of cultures through singing, playing instruments, moving, and listening. Classes emphasize learning to sight-read and dictate intermediate rhythmic and melodic patterns using standard musical notation. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair. Fifth grade students may also choose to participate in the school band.



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Seventh Grade Curriculum

DEVOTIONS

We begin and end each day with a school-wide devotion over the intercom as we say together the Bible verse and catechism for the week and sing together the weekly hymn verse.

In class, the morning devotions are based on the text Bible Stories for Daily Prayer, a 3-year program of selected sequential Bible stories that span Biblical history from Creation through early years of the Christian church, including church year stories and catechism stories.

CATECHESIS

Pastor Fabrizio goes through the text Lutheran Catechesis (Catechumen Edition) with the students over a two-year period, engaging the children in lively discussion as they read from the Bible and discuss the texts.

MATHEMATICS

The seventh graders use Prentice Hall Pre-Algebra to solve equations which involve whole numbers, decimals & fractions. They also learn to use ratios, proportions, and percentages to solve real world problems. Linear and nonlinear functions, spatial thinking, area, volume, data analysis, probability and polynomials provide the foundation for preparing to study Algebra in eighth grade.

READING

Our independent reading program prepares the children to be life-long readers. The students choose their own books, reading their way through different genres as we work on comprehension strategies and literary elements. The students learn to discuss their reading material using accurate literary terms for plot elements, literary devices, and characterization. Non-fiction choices correlate with the students' personal interests and help them build on basic strategies for reading and analyzing nonfiction text. A teacher read aloud session each day frames daily instruction and exposes the students to a wide variety of good literature.

ENGLISH

Our English units integrate grammar, writing, and reading as the students work to master the conventions of the English language while developing an imaginative and organized writing craft in a variety of writing forms through a process of rehearsal, drafting, revision, and editing. The writing forms include narrative, descriptive, expository, informative, and persuasive writing, as well as stories and poems. The students also practice excellent writing by copying rich texts. The students have been shown to be well prepared for a rigorous high school language arts program.

SPELLING

The 7th graders use the Vocabulary for the High School Student text to study spelling and vocabulary simultaneously, using context, central ideas, prefixes, roots, derivatives, and analogies to reinforce retention. The dictation aspect of the spelling pretest trains the students to listen to, repeat, and record well-crafted sentences.



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HISTORY

Students in grade 7 and 8 use the Core Knowledge Sequence curriculum, alternating each year as they focus on the history of the United States. One year they study Pre-colonial America through the 1800's. Highlights include the Revolutionary War, the U.S. Constitution, the Civil War and westward expansion. In the alternate year, their study takes them from the 1800's to the 2000's. The Great Depression, WWI, WWII, the Cold War, and the social changes of the 60's and 70's are some of the topics covered.

SCIENCE

Students begin a two-year cycle of Life Science and Physical Science. Students take an in depth look at the scientific process and its use in evaluating scientific information and data. Students are encouraged to ask questions. Students are eligible to earn high school credit through the passing of an Exemption Test in May of their 8th grade year.

ART

Students will show mastery of the Elements (line, shape, color, form, texture, space, and value) and Principles of Design (Emphasis, Balance, Movement, Pattern, Contrast, Unity, and Rhythm) in composition of their own artwork. The students will receive direct, hands-on instruction in the form of teacher demonstrations and examples. Students will then use their creativity to apply what was learned through demonstrations to their own creation. Students will use a variety of mediums, including graphite, paint, watercolor, crayons, markers, clay, and textiles. Students will learn how to properly use and care for supplies used. Students will be introduced to several famous artists throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in grades 5-8 share gym classes twice a week. They participate in a variety of activities that work on their hand-eye coordination, teamwork and team strategies, and overall physical fitness.

MUSIC

Seventh grade attends music class with a specialist twice per week. Students experience music from a variety of cultures through singing, playing instruments, moving, and listening. Classes emphasize learning to sight-read and dictate intermediate/difficult rhythmic and melodic patterns using standard musical notation. Students participate in the All-School Choir, which sings 2 times a year for worship services at Our Father's and are involved in the Christmas Program and Spring Fair. Fifth grade students may also choose to participate in the school band.



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Eighth Grade Curriculum

DEVOTIONS

We begin and end each day with a school-wide devotion over the intercom as we say together the Bible verse and catechism for the week and sing together the weekly hymn verse.

In class, the morning devotions are based on the text Bible Stories for Daily Prayer, a 3-year program of selected sequential Bible stories that span Biblical history from Creation through early years of the Christian church, including church year stories and catechism stories.

CATECHESIS

Pastor Fabrizio continues to explore the Lutheran Confessions with students.

MATHEMATICS

Students begin to explore Algebra. Particular emphasis is placed on linear functions and graphing. This course is taught to prepare students for high school Geometry. Students in Algebra are expected to meet high school level expectations. Students can be recommended for and take an Exemption Test to earn credit for high school.

READING

Our independent reading program prepares the children to be life-long readers. The students choose their own books, reading their way through different genres as we work on comprehension strategies and literary elements. The students learn to discuss their reading material using accurate literary terms for plot elements, literary devices, and characterization. Non-fiction choices correlate with the students' personal interests and help them build on basic strategies for reading and analyzing nonfiction text. A teacher read aloud session each day frames daily instruction and exposes the students to a wide variety of good literature.

ENGLISH

Our English units integrate grammar, writing, and reading as the students work to master the conventions of the English language while developing an imaginative and organized writing craft in a variety of writing forms through a process of rehearsal, drafting, revision, and editing. The writing forms include narrative, descriptive, expository, informative, and persuasive writing, as well as stories and poems. The students also practice excellent writing by copying rich texts. The students have been shown to be well prepared for a rigorous high school language arts program.

SPELLING

The 8th graders use the Vocabulary for the High School Student text to study spelling and vocabulary simultaneously, using context, central ideas, prefixes, roots, derivatives, and analogies to reinforce retention. The dictation aspect of the spelling pretest trains the students to listen to, repeat, and record well-crafted sentences.

HISTORY

Students in grade 7 and 8 use the Core Knowledge Sequence curriculum, alternating each year as they focus on the history of the United States. One year they study Pre-colonial America through the 1800's.



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Highlights include the Revolutionary War, the U.S. Constitution, the Civil War and westward expansion. In the alternate year, their study takes them from the 1800's to the 2000's. The Great Depression, WWI, WWII, the Cold War, and the social changes of the 60's and 70's are some of the topics covered.

SCIENCE

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