

# St. Margaret Catholic School

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## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum

### LITERATURE – Elements of Literature - Holt

The students identify, maintain, analyze, and apply reading skills, study literary forms, explore various genres of literature, reading comprehension, context clues, main ideas, inference, critical thinking and research skills, and novel studies. The students apply writing skills through persuasive, descriptive and informative essays. Students use close reading and text-dependent questions in order to improve comprehension skills as well as interpreting the purpose of the genre piece read. Annotation skills are taught to enhance reading experience. SMCS uses Accelerated Reader and STAR Reading to motivate students to read and monitor their success.

### ENGLISH –Elements of Language - Holt

- Topic sentences
- In-depth study of parts of speech
- Clauses, fragments, sentences, and punctuation
- Essays modes such as argumentative, expository, narrative, analytical expository, DBQ (Document Based Questions), Literary Analysis, and Email Writing
- Spelling including analogies, corrects spellings, definitions, antonyms and synonyms, and use in context
- Use of RAP CC method for constructed response
- Creative writing
- Unity and coherence in writing

### MATH – Glencoe Math

- Order of operations
- Powers & exponents
- Decimals
- Scientific notation
- Graphs
- Prime factorization
- ALEKS
  - Added dimension to Math program
  - Provides adaptive, personalized learning and assessment to target knowledge gaps
  - Delivers focused instruction
  - Allows the teacher to differentiate instruction to support and challenge each student's unique learning needs
- Multiples
- Solving equations & inequalities
- Integers
- Percent
- Geometry
- Square roots
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Discounts, Sales Tax, & Simple Interest

### SOCIAL STUDIES – Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States

- American History
- Political Science
- Colonial Settlement
- Civil War
- Reconstruction
- World War II
- Map skills
- Comprehension, group work, & critical thinking skills
- Social Studies fair participation is mandatory
- The DBQ Project – Document Based Questions

### SCIENCE

- Current Event magazine is used with computer-based projects and activities

- Scientific method through hands-on experiments
- Life Science & functions
- Plant & animal kingdoms
- Animal diversity
- Lab Safety
- Hurricanes/weather
- Endangered Species
- DNA Project

### RELIGION

The theme entails Grace as our link with God, his gift to us to bring us to Him and his eternal life, with an emphasis on transmission of grace through developing the virtues, the seven sacraments, on God's loving gifts of revelation of himself through the prophets, the Incarnation, and the Church.

Part 1: God reveals Himself; the revelation of God through creation, the prophets, and the chosen people

Part 2: God becomes Man; Jesus, true God and true Man, Priest and Sacrifice

Part 3: God shares His Life; the operation of Grace in our lives and in developing the virtues

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> all participate in Lectio Divina (meditating with scripture)

### ENRICHMENT

Junior High students rotate enrichment classes of Computer, Writing, Spanish, and Art every quarter. Students attend these classes daily for a 50-minute period during that quarter. Students attend PE 3x/week and Library 1x/week all year long.

### OPEN ENRICHMENT

- **Drama**    **Life Skills**    **Road Trip USA**    **STEM**    **Coding**    **Career Explorations**

Students attend open enrichment for 30 minutes on Fridays for the entire year. Students are given choices and must select their top 3. Each student will be placed in one of their top 3 choices for that year.

### TECHNOLOGY

Each classroom is equipped with a Promethean ActivBoard and AV station for instruction and learning. The students have access to computers within their classrooms as well a mobile lab with laptops and Chrome Books to help enhance the instruction within the classroom. Teachers and students have access to portable iPads and a computer lab housed in our library. Use of Chrome Books and Google Classroom is used widely among junior high students.