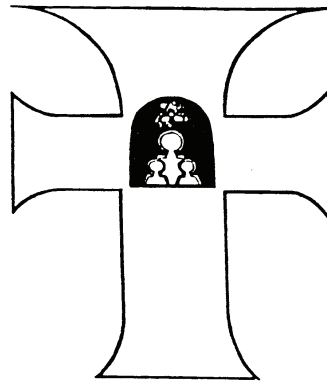


Noonan Elementary Academy



Seventh Grade Curriculum

*The Academy is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

*We are committed to excellence
in spiritual formation and academics.*

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Seventh Grade Curriculum

Academic Program



Religion /Scripture

The religion program focuses on spiritual formation. The primary text series is Faith and Life, published by Ignatius Press. It is a comprehensive Catholic program that combines beautiful classical and original art work with a solid doctrinal and scriptural presentation. These texts according to Bishop Thomas Muldoon are unsurpassed in lucidity of doctrine, in fidelity to God's revelations, and in stimulation of real interest and love for the Faith.

The Life of Grace, published by Ignatius Press

Aim

To help the young person treasure the sacraments as indispensable to a full Christian life of love and truth. To understand how grace works in our soul and its relation to practicing the virtues, and to appreciate our gifts of reason and faith.

Theme

Grace, our link with God, His gift to us to bring us to Himself and His eternal life, with an emphasis on transmission of grace through the seven sacraments and on God's loving gifts of revelation of Himself through the prophets, the Incarnation, and the Church. The role of grace in developing the virtues.

Sequence

Part 1: God Revels Himself. The revelation of God through creation, the prophets, and to 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 the development of the virtues, especially through each sacrament.

Reading/Literature

The Prentice Hall Literature Program is an integrated language arts program offering high quality, appealing, traditional and contemporary literary selections, combined with writing activities that guide the students into, through and beyond the literature. Classroom instruction will focus on:

- † Reading actively
- † Analyzing literary selections
- † Critical thinking and reading

Themes covered in the seventh grade Bronze text are:

- † Independence and Identity
- † Common Threats
- † What Matters
- † Meeting Challenge
- † Just for Fun

Literary Genres covered are:

- † Short stories
- † Nonfiction
- † Drama
- † Poetry
- † Legends and, Folk Tales, and Myths

Supplemental texts:

- † American Cardinal Readers
- † Bennets Book of Virtues

Writing

Seventh graders are introduced to written and oral communication with a literature model; they then move through the following five stages of writing.

- † Prewriting
- † Drafting
- † Revising
- † Proofreading
- † Publishing

In addition to continued practice in narrative, descriptive, and expository writing seventh graders will continue persuasive writing. New writing techniques at this level are:

- † Avoiding clichés
- † Compiling a works cited page (bibliography)
- † Writing editorials
- † Congratulatory letters
- † Poetry
- † Using metaphors and personification

Listening and Speaking

Students will be given many experiences that foster the development of listening and speaking skills through the following:

- † Class participation
- † Oral reports
- † Class discussion
- † Small group participation

English

A firm grasp of the structure and use of language is critical to successfully harnessing the power of the written word. Mastery of proper grammar, usage, and mechanics is the goal of the comprehensive

English continued

grammar program in Voyages in English, published by Loyola Press. The exercises in the English workbook provide the added reinforcement students need. Skills developed or reinforced in the seventh grade are:

- † Adverbial objectives
- † Relative pronouns
- † Compound relative pronouns
- † Demonstrative pronouns
- † Pronominal adjectives
- † Indicative verbs
- † Interrogative verbs
- † Adverbial nouns
- † Subordinate conjunctions

Spelling

Spelling skills are integrated into the vocabulary and reading program. These skills teach spelling rules and high frequency words in a structured spelling program called Everyday Spelling, published by Scott Foresman.

Vocabulary

Seventh grade students have a developmental sensitivity for new and interesting words. The Academy's vocabulary program provides an Engaging and systematic approach to new words. Students will:

- † Understand new words meanings
- † Use new words in everyday language
- † Incorporate new vocabulary in writing assignments

Analogies

Ridgewood analogies groups put analogous relationships into five

Analogies continued

Categories: (descriptive, comparative, categorical, serial, and causal) with three levels of difficulty within each category. As they solve and create analogies, students actively process information, make important connections, use information and skills to identify relationships, construct relationships, and generate new knowledge, to improve critical thinking and long-term memory. Book 4 is organized by subject area: geography, history and government, language arts, and math.

Math

Saxon's math series uses incremental development and continual review to insure mastery learning. Genuine learning is demonstrated not only through the understanding of a concept but also through the ability to apply that concept to new situations. In seventh grade Algebra 1/2 the following fundamentals are covered:

- † Fractions
- † Decimals
- † Mixed numbers
- † Numbers in base 2
- † Arithmetic operations involving all forms of numbers
- † Scientific notation
- † Word problems involving pre-algebraic expressions
- † The solution of linear equations in one unknown
- † Geometric concepts such as perimeter, area and volume

Science

The Glenco Earth Science text, which aligns with the National Science Education Standards provides a blend of concepts, inquiry, and hands-on content. Students are exposed to the process skills needed to form and test hypothesis. The units taught are:

Science continued

- † The Nature of Science
- † Matter and It's Changes
- † Minerals and Rocks
- † Changing Surface of Earth
- † Landforms, Weather and Erosion
- † Earthquakes and Volcanoes
- † Changes and Earth History
- † Air and Water
- † Weather and Climate
- † Population and Pollution
- † Outer Space

Social Studies

Houghton-Mifflin prepares students for informed participation in tomorrow's America. This comprehensive social studies program presents a mixture of history, geography, economics, citizenship, and culture. The seventh grade text, A More Perfect Union, explores themes that focus on:

- † A Land of Promise
- † The Constitution
- † Establishing a New Nation
- † The Development of America's Regions

Geography

A comprehensive map skills program from National Geographic called, Map Essentials, covers map skills. Concepts covered in seventh grade are:

- † Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn
- † Solar System Maps

Geography continued

- † Migration Maps
- † Map projections and distortions

Health

Students will develop an understanding of personal health and safety issues such as:

- † Nutrition
- † Proper rest and exercise
- † Good hygiene
- † Fitness
- † Violence prevention
- † Safe use of medication

Library/Computers

These skills are introduced in the library/media center and computer lab to help children learn how to research and process information.

Specials

Physical Education

Seventh grade students will continue to develop muscle strength, cardio-respiratory endurance and flexibility as they learn to develop a healthy lifestyle. They will learn the following: to follow the rules of sports, teamwork, good sportsmanship, offensive and defensive strategies, aerobic exercises, and health fitness.

Art

Students will explore many of the more sophisticated art media and techniques. They will:

- † Experiment with form and style
- † Use elements of art to express their ideas
- † Use proportion and scale
- † Experiment with gesture and contour techniques

Music

Students will:

- † Understand that different cultures express themselves through their music
- † Be able to creatively express themselves through music
- † Interpret music in movement

Spanish

Elementary Spanish is an award-winning program for grades 1-8 from Northern Arizona University. The curriculum is organized by thematic units. The program uses songs, games, natural conversation, and role-playing to create a fun, non-threatening environment.

Latin

Latin is as vital to vocabulary development as phonics is to reading. Fifty percent of all English words have their roots in Latin. Exposure to this classical language teaches order in the English language and provides order for all facets of life. The text for this course is Matin Latin published Mars Hill.

General Information

Report Cards/Progress Reports

Students will receive a report card at the end of each ten-week marking period. Students in need of academic assistance will receive a progress report at the end of the five-week point or half way through the marking period.

Parent Conferences

Parent conferences are scheduled for late October. However, parents may schedule a separate conference at anytime.

Homework

For children to achieve mastery, reinforcement is absolutely necessary. Homework is assigned, as needed, for practice and special projects.

Expect to give some assistance. Help your child succeed by:

- † Providing a quiet area for study
- † Discourage, or prohibit, T.V. on school nights
- † Provide nutritious meals and plenty of exercise
- † Schedule sufficient rest (8 hours for seventh graders)
- † Show an interest in school activities
- † Keep communication lines open with the school

