

Music

Science continued

- Genes and Genetic Mutations
- Embryonic Development
- The Fossil Record

Social Studies

Our Social Studies curriculum focuses on citizenship and the moral implications of choices made by the government and its citizens. To understand democratic values, students will become informed, responsible, and contributing citizens as Christians in a global society. We strive to achieve our standards and goals through a multi-faceted approach, promoting a respect for diversity through multi-cultural exploration.

- Post Civil War-Present (Reconstruction & Industrialization)
- Imperialism
- World War I & II
- Cold War
- U.S. Constitution & Illinois Constitution

Foreign Language

Students are taught and exposed to the Spanish language and culture from a global and community perspective. The Spanish curriculum imbeds religion and other core disciplines to show the relationship of the language to all aspects of life. Interpersonal communication dominates the very academically rigorous curriculum. Students learn vocabulary, grammar, writing, and culture through an integrated curriculum.

- The ability to play complex rhythms and play multiple instrument parts together on pitched percussion instruments such as xylophones
- More complex chording and plucking of the individual notes on the ukulele through classroom instruction and classroom performance while reading a ukulele chart with chords over the lyrics
- Knowledge on musicals and operas by researching a musical and presenting that musical to class
- The ability to write complex rhythmic compositions in different musical form and perform them for the class

Physical Education

- Continuation of team sports and individual sports using average to above average skill drills for each sport
- Games that provide good recreational and physical fitness value
- Demonstrates the president's physical fitness test one time per year
- More aggressive conditioning program for cardiovascular work up
- Nutrition & healthy food choices-personal hygiene

Art

Students identify and analyze how the elements of art are used and combined to create works of art. Students create their own artwork that displays their own unique and personal expression, research and reflect upon the art works of recognized masters and the importance and impact they have had in art. Students maintain an art journal that illustrates their learning and incorporates reflections and critiques throughout the year. Students also learn to create multi-media complex works of art.

Visitation Catholic School Mission Statement

Visitation School is part of Visitation Parish and a place where we learn about the lessons taught by Jesus Christ.

We do our best each day to pray, worship, and learn together.

Our teachers help us understand the importance of respecting and serving others as Jesus did.

I will work hard today and everyday to follow the example of Jesus.



*“Celebrating the past
to awaken the future”*

Grade Eight Curriculum Overview

School Office: 630-834-4931

Principal: Mrs. Carrie Mijal

Grade Eight Curriculum Overview

Religion

Our religion series is an excellent promotion of active learning and sharing. Our primary purpose is to emphasize God's creation, /his constant presence in our lives, and how we can remain close with Him through our Catholic faith.

- Church History
- The Marks of the Church from the Beginning
- The Growth of Christendom
- The Age of Faith & Beauty
- Reason, Rebellion, & Reform
- Returning to the Roots of Christianity
- Confirmation Preparation
- Study & Prayer, Service Projects, Saint Reports, & Retreat

Literacy 3-8

Students will be exposed to many types of writing (informative/expository, narrative, opinion/argument/persuasive) using the 6 Traits of writing model. In addition, we are expanding on digital literacy for students' presentations for a variety of audiences using many modalities. We introduce a rich variety of literature and include most types of genres and religious texts. Students are able to use non-fiction text features to locate information utilizing comprehension strategies.

- Reads texts fluently according to grade level.
- Uses a variety of reading comprehension strategies for fiction and nonfiction texts
- Researching topics using print and digital tools
- 6 Traits Writing Program

Literacy continued

- Presents effectively for purpose and meaning
- Compares and contrasts different sources to answer questions and communicate ideas
- Uses different forms of digital literacy to produce and publish writing
- Works collaboratively with others towards a common goal
- Develops extensive vocabulary based on grade level

Math

Big Ideas incorporates inquiry based curriculum into the instructional aspect of math concepts. This approach opens doors to abstract thought, reasoning, and inquiry as students persevere to answer the Essential Questions that are introduced each section.

- Compare the size of irrational numbers, and locate them on a number line
- Know and apply properties of integer exponents, including scientific notation
- Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations
- Analyze and solve linear equations, and pairs of simultaneous linear equations
- Define, evaluate, and compare functions
- Verify experimentally the properties of translations, rotations, and reflections
- Use and apply the Pythagorean Theorem
- Solves problems involving volume of cones, cylinders, and spheres
- Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data

Science

Our Science curriculum is built around the STEMscopes program which is a hands-on inquiry based program. This program stresses collaborative learning and problem solving using real-world issues and challenges. Over the course of 7th and 8th grade, students will explore:

- Structures of Matter
- Chemical Properties and Interactions
- Changes in Energy on the Molecular Level
- Energy Transfer and Temperature
- Characteristics of Chemical Reactions
- Conservation of Matter
- Energy in Chemical Reactions
- Kinetic, Potential, & Thermal Energy
- Newton's Laws of Motion
- The Properties of Waves
- The Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Photosynthesis
- Cell Structure and Function
- Body Systems
- Matter and Energy in Food Webs
- Ecosystems
- Biodiversity
- Reproduction and Genetic Variation
- Inheritance of Traits