



## **Grade Seven Curriculum 2015-2016**

### **Religion**

Text: Faith First by RCL (2006). This course focuses on deepening the students' personal and communal relationship with Jesus Christ. Students will grow in discipleship as they move toward the kingdom of God. Students will grow in discipleship as they move toward bringing about the kingdom of God. Students explore and come to understand Christ's humanity and divinity by examining closely the Gospels wherein we find stories of his own family life as a boy growing up with Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. Scripture stories of his roles as Prophet, Messiah, Lord and Savior are also closely studied. Catholic doctrine is reviewed and explained. New prayers are introduced and prayed throughout the liturgical seasons along with those already mastered. Peace and justice issues are studied and practiced during Columban Missions Week in October and during Lent and in May. In the Family Life component, students discuss and learn the Church's teachings on the dignity of life, the human body, relationships and the sanctity of Marriage.

### **Literature**

Text: Introducing Literature (1991). Study focuses on comparison, contrast, synthesis and analysis of literary elements in the short story, drama, myth, American poetry and the contemporary American and foreign novel. Development of critical thinking skills and the writing of short essays is emphasized along with vocabulary development and usage. Students identify and understand literary devices such as metaphor, allusion, simile, alliteration, onomatopoeia and rhyme. Students read independently and make regular book reports in class. Weekly word skills assignments develop students' word knowledge in writing and speaking.

### **English**

Text: Writer's Choice by Glencoe (2001). The practice of writing with a purpose and in the real world is emphasized in this course, i.e. journaling, free-response to an oral reading of a text, essays/argument, reporting, persuasive and creative and descriptive writing, expository research, narration. Writing models and artwork are presented as springboards for students' work. Rules of language will be highlighted with daily oral language assignments. Grammar, usage and mechanics are also studied using exercises from the text and accompanying workbook. Internet use and computer skills are required for research and oral presentations.

### **History**

Text: The American Journey by Glencoe McGraw Hill (2006). This course takes students on an historic journey beginning with the Paleolithic Era, to colonization through to the Civil War. Students will learn how our nation was created and shaped through war and reform, change and conflicts. Because history is a story of our past, students will examine the stories of many different people, their culture and environment and how their lives shaped our nation. Students are encouraged to listen, read or watch the daily news. Besides quizzes and tests students are given a variety of other assessments.



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### Science

Text: SEPUP: ISSUES and Life Science by Lab-Aids, Inc. (2012). This series explores the area of Life Science. Students will be using process skills to connect contemporary social issues relating to life science and technology. Topics to be covered will be evolution, studying people scientifically, ecology, body works, cell biology, and genetics. This is an activity-based series that compels students to use higher order thinking to analyze and solve problems.

### Mathematics

Text: Mathematics Common Core (Prentice Hall) (Pearson Learning Solutions 2013). Students extend their study of ratios and rates to develop an understanding of proportionality. They solve problems related to proportional relationships, including a range of percent problems (e.g. discounts, interest, taxes, tips, percent of increase/decrease). They apply the concept of proportionality to scale drawings and solve problems of scale. They graph proportional relationships and develop an informal understanding of slope. They differentiate proportional relationships from other relationships. Students develop a holistic understanding of number as they express rational numbers in different representations (e.g. fractions, decimals, and percents) and interpret negative numbers in everyday context (e.g. temperature change). Students extend their knowledge of operations and of properties of operations to solve problems with any rational numbers, including negative rational numbers. They write expressions and equations in one variable to solve problems. Students expand their reasoning about shapes to include circles. They build their knowledge of geometric attributes and formulas to determine the circumference and area of a circle and the surface area and volume of any polyhedron. Students continue their study of statistical thinking by exploring the concept of random sampling.

**Specials:** Art, Music, Computers, Spanish and Physical Education.