

# Curriculum

Updated 8/23/08

## **SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM**

**PRE ALGEBRA 6** - (Mathematics: Structure and Method – Course 2, Houghton Mifflin 2001)

In this honors course, students work, write, and simplify numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expressions. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is placed on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Statistics, non-routine problem solving, cooperative learning, functions, geometric formulas, ratios, and proportions are explored. **Prerequisite:** *A yearlong grade of 85% or higher in fifth grade math, successfully passing the proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission, and teacher recommendation.*

**MATH 6** – (Math Applications and Concepts Course 1, McGraw Hill 2005)

Students learn to solve problems, increase computational competence, and build critical thinking skills. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, measurement, percentage, factoring, ratio, fractions, and basic geometry are taught. Beginning Algebra concepts are integrated.

**INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE 6** – (Route 66 – Travel Through the Bible, Positive Action for Christ; New International Version of the Bible (NIV))

This course is designed for students new or nearly new to studying the Bible. It will give students an overview of the entire Bible and then a particular focus on Jesus Christ, the Bible's central most important character, and greatest man to have ever lived. This course is taught with emphasis on students discovering how God's word applies to them, personally. It will create a solid foundation for future success in junior high and high school Bible courses. There will be time in class dedicated to the memorization and evaluation of Scripture.

**BIBLE 6** – (The Story of God's People-The House of Israel Series, Christian Schools International; New International Version of the Bible (NIV))

God the Father

Students become acquainted or reacquainted with the history of how the Bible is God's inspired Word. They also learn the books of the Bible, as well as how to navigate through the entire Bible. Students study the first five books of the Old Testament, learning how God, the Father, is sovereign and how He provided for His chosen ones, the Jews. In addition, their faith is challenged to realize that God is still sovereign over all and cares deeply for each one of them. The Bible 6 curriculum complements the History 6 curriculum, which focuses on ancient

civilizations. Bible 6 students meet four times a week in addition to attendance in a weekly chapel. There will be time in class dedicated to the memorization and evaluation of Scripture

**HISTORY 6** – (History Alive: The Ancient World - Student Edition, Teachers Curriculum Inst 2003)

Students will be given the opportunity to experience the Ancient World in an overview of world cultures. The class allows students to explore historical, economic, and geographic themes and observe cultural differences. Not only will students study how things came to be as they are now, but also will have the occasion to appreciate the differences in our world cultures that may assist in understanding those around us. The span of study will begin with the creation of man and finish with the Roman Empire and its decline. Special emphasis will be placed on understanding God's purpose and involvement with humankind throughout history. Students will do projects during the civilizations studies based on topics and themes.

**HONORS ENGLISH 6** – (Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop 2002, Language C, A Beka; Prentice Hall Literature; assorted selection of novels)

Grammar study includes vocabulary workshop and words taken from textual reading. All students participate in a school speech meet. The writing focus is on developing strong support in body paragraphs with an emphasis on narrative and descriptive writing. Honors students will be invited to participate in the ACSI Writing Festival. Prentice Hall Literature and novels are read by students and discussed in class. Outside reading and book reports are required. Outlining and the components of a research paper are taught. The parts of short stories will be studied with an emphasis on character analysis, vocabulary development, comprehension skills and enjoyment. Novels include Pilgrims Progress, Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry and Tuck Everlasting.

**ENGLISH 6** – (Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop 2002; Language C, A Beka 1990; Prentice Hall Literature; assorted selection of novels)

Grammar study includes vocabulary workshop and words taken from textual reading. Instruction and practice in cursive writing is part of the course content. All students participate in a school speech meet. The writing focus is on developing strong support in body paragraphs with an emphasis on narrative and descriptive writing. Prentice Hall Literature and selected novels are read by students and discussed in class. Outside reading and book reports are required. Outlining and the components of a research paper are taught. The parts of short stories will be studied with an emphasis on character analysis, vocabulary development, comprehension skills, and enjoyment. Novels include Pilgrims Progress and Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, and Tuck Everlasting.

**SCIENCE 6** – (Earth Science, Holt Science and Technology, CA Edition 2001)

The program allows the students to experience studies in Earth Science disciplines. The materials present in-depth content and hands-on exploration

activities with comprehensive technology support. A comprehensive science fair unit emphasizes study and implementation of the scientific method of research and writing a research report.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education is an atmosphere where students will learn to exhibit Christian character through all aspects of activity. Students will be taught the direct relationship between physical education and Jesus' teachings. Our aim is for each student to grow physically, as well as spiritually. Physical Education will give each student the opportunity to develop movement skills to participate confidently in physical activity, and ultimately understand that both are related to one's growth and well-being.

### **ELECTIVES**

Students may choose a class from the list of electives being offered. The elective departments are Visual and Performing Arts, Computer Programs, Foreign Language, Journalism, and Yearbook.

## **SEVENTH GRADE CURRICULUM**

### **ALGEBRA I** - (Algebra: Structure and Method, McDougal Littel 2000)

This honors course is designed to sharpen skills that use variables with whole numbers, signed numbers, decimals, and fractions. Students will be introduced to polynomials, functions, algebraic functions, and the quadratic formula. There is an emphasis on learning strategies for solving word problems.

**Prerequisite:** *A yearlong grade of 85% or higher in PreAlgebra, successfully passing the proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission, and teacher recommendation.*

### **PRE ALGEBRA 7** - (Mathematics: Structure and Method – Course 2, Houghton Mifflin 2001)

In this honors course, students work, write, and simplify numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expressions. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is placed on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Statistics, non-routine problem solving, cooperative learning, functions, geometric formulas, ratios, and proportions are explored. **Prerequisite:** *A yearlong grade of 85% or higher in sixth grade math, successfully passing the proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission, and teacher recommendation.*

### **MATH 7** - (Mathematics: Structure and Method – Course 1, Houghton Mifflin 2001)

In this comprehensive course, students will work with a full range of topics that are needed for the successful study of mathematics. Emphasis will be placed on the strengthening of skills in the use of fractions, ratios, decimals, and percents. Variables will be introduced early in the curriculum to familiarize the student with algebraic concepts. Operations involving inverse operations are used throughout the curriculum. Problem solving strategies, critical thinking, and connections to technology are woven throughout the course.

### **INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE 7** – (Route 66 – Travel Through the Bible, Positive Action for Christ; New International Version of the Bible (NIV))

This course is designed for students new or nearly new to studying the Bible. It will give students an overview of the entire Bible and then a particular focus on Jesus Christ, the Bible's central most important character, and greatest man to have ever lived. This course is taught with emphasis on students discovering how God's word applies to them, personally. Scripture memorization, journaling, and small group activities will be used to enhance student learning. Completion of this class will create a solid foundation for future success in junior high and high school Bible courses.

**BIBLE 7** – (New International Version of the Bible (NIV))

Discover God the Son

Students will examine the life of Jesus Christ, our Savior. In class, students primarily study the Gospel of Mark. This book of the Bible represents Jesus as the Man on the move in an action-packed, fast paced, amazing adventure. Students learn about Jesus and the relationship He desires to have with us. Students are encouraged to respond to the call of Jesus: “Follow Me!” Students examine the strength He gives us during our challenges and the never-ending rewards He gives us as we obey Him. Along with the in-depth study of Mark, students will also read and overview the books of Matthew, Luke, and John. Finally, students will “Walk with Christ to the Cross,” through the resurrection, and through eternity using the Dawson McAllister series. Throughout the year, enrichment curriculum is used to help students grow in their personal walk with Christ.

**HISTORY 7** – (World History: Medieval and Early Modern Times - Student Edition, Houghton Mifflin School 2004)

This course is a continuing study of the history of the world, focusing on the years between the fall of Rome and the French Revolution. Students will look at history to find lessons for their daily lives, see God at work in the lives of people, and see Biblical principles worked out in time.

**HONORS ENGLISH 7** – (Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop 2002; Grammar and Composition 7, A Beka; Prentice Hall Literature)

Students read selections from a literature anthology (selections include A Christmas Carol, various stories, fables, myths, and legends) and begin to learn skills of literary analysis and terminology. Book reports are required and additional novels, The Outsiders, Animal Farm, and The Hobbit are also read in class. Students are challenged to interpret all reading from a Christian perspective. Parts of speech and the parts of a sentence, along with selected usage areas are covered. Students write different types of paragraphs (with an emphasis on expository writing) and move on to the five paragraph essay, learning to formulate a thesis statement and supporting the thesis with three body paragraphs, as well as learning to write an effective introduction and conclusion. Research paper format is taught. Emphasis is placed on developing higher critical thinking skills. A greater level of writing is required and the pace of instruction of the basic curriculum is accelerated. Students spend additional time developing projects using technology. All students participate in a school speech meet. Honors students are encouraged to participate in the ACSI Creative Writing Festival. Students research and publish an I-Search Project.

**ENGLISH 7** – (Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop 2002; Grammar and Composition 7, A Beka; Prentice Hall Literature)

Students read selections from a literature anthology (selections include A Christmas Carol, various stories, fables, myths, and legends) and begin to learn skills of literary analysis and terminology. Book reports are required and additional novels, The Outsider and Animal Farm, are also read in class. Students are challenged to interpret all reading from a Christian perspective. Parts of speech and the parts of a sentence, along with selected usage areas are covered. Students write different types of paragraphs (with an emphasis on expository writing) and move on to the five paragraph essay, learning to formulate a thesis statement and supporting the thesis with three body paragraphs, as well as learning to write an effective introduction and conclusion. Research paper format is taught. All students participate in a school speech meet.

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE HONORS 7** – (Physical Science, Holt Science and Technology, CA Edition)

In Honors Science 7, students will embark on an exciting year exploring God’s creation as inquisitive and investigative scientists. Class investigations will include laboratory experimentation, group investigations, formal lab reports, technology enrichment, and an interdisciplinary approach to science. Students will participate in a national on-line Science Fair called “e-cybermission.” Students will be studying the realm of Physical Science. They will survey the areas of chemistry and physics using the Scientific Method.

**LIFE SCIENCE 7** – (Life Science, Holt Science and Technology, CA Edition)

In Life Science, students will embark on an exciting year exploring God’s Creation as inquisitive scientists. Class investigations will include laboratory experimentation, group investigations, formal lab reports, technology enrichment, and an interdisciplinary approach to science. Students will participate in a comprehensive unit which emphasizes the study and implementation of the Scientific Method, research, and communicating those results to others through a research report. Student will be studying the realm of Life Science: cells, classification, animals, plants, evolution/Creation, and genetics.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education is an atmosphere where students will learn to exhibit Christian character through all aspects of activity. Students will be taught the direct relationship between physical education and Jesus’ teachings. Our aim is for each student to grow physically, as well as spiritually. Physical Education will give each student the opportunity to develop movement skills to participate confidently in physical activity, and ultimately understand that both are related to one’s growth and well-being.

## **ELECTIVES**

Students may choose a class from the list of electives being offered. The elective departments are Visual and Performing Arts, Computer Programs, Foreign Language, Journalism and Yearbook.

## ***EIGHTH GRADE CURRICULUM***

**GEOMETRY** - (Geometry: Concepts and Applications California Edition, McGraw-Hill/Glencoe 2004)

This honors course includes learning the language of geometry, studying parallel and perpendicular lines, congruence and similarity, special right triangle relationships, and trigonometric ratios. Students gain skill in logical thinking by exposure to conditional statements, indirect proofs, and two-column proofs. This course will involve studying area, perimeter, surface area, and volume of a variety of geometric shapes. Students who successfully complete this course will be eligible to take Algebra II as freshmen. This is a high school level course.

**Prerequisite:** *A yearlong grade of 85% or higher in Algebra, successfully passing the proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission, and teacher recommendation.*

**ALGEBRA I** - (Algebra: Structure and Method, McDougal Littel 2000)

This honors course is designed to sharpen skills that use variables with whole numbers, signed numbers, decimals, and fractions. Students will be introduced to polynomials, functions, algebraic functions, and the quadratic formula. There is an emphasis on learning strategies for solving word problems.

**Prerequisite:** *A yearlong grade of 85% or higher in PreAlgebra, successfully passing the proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission, and teacher recommendation.*

**PRE ALGEBRA 8** - (Mathematics: Structure and Method – Course 2, Houghton Mifflin 2001)

In this course, students work, write, and simplify numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expressions. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is placed on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Statistics, non-routine problem solving, cooperative learning, functions, geometric formulas, ratios, and proportions are explored.

**BIBLE 8** – (New International Version of the Bible (NIV))

Discover God, the Holy Spirit – The Study of the Book of Acts

This is an exceptional life application study of the book of the Acts of the Apostles. Students discover that the Holy Spirit is a mighty helper and daily guide for their lives. Doctrinal emphasis includes the person and work of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the Christian church, evangelism, and the spread of the gospel into “all the world.” Life application areas include dealing with peer pressure, family life issues, and building healthy friendships. Students are encouraged to consider God’s place, plan, and purpose in their individual lives. Study guides and writing assignments in the form of “Family Faith Interviews”

enforce parental involvement in the spiritual formation of the student. Cooperative learning teams and chapel presentations encourage practical application of the student's faith-walk. Scripture memorization and reading of other Apostolic writings of the New Testament are assigned as well.

**HISTORY 8** – (Creating America: A History of the United States - Beginnings Through World War I - California Edition, McDougal Littell 2006; American Civics, Holt, Rinehart & Winston May 2005 –*In class use only*)

American History and Government

Topics covered are exploration, colonization, revolution, introduction to government, and the U.S. Constitution, branches of government, westward expansion, Civil War, and post Civil War. God works through history are explored teaching lessons applicable in our daily lives and how these historical events illustrate principles set forth in God's word. Students are taught how we need to be actively involved in our government and know how to legally influence it.

**HONORS ENGLISH 8** – (Grammar and Composition 8, A Beka; Prentice Hall Literature; Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop 2002; Taking Writing by the Hand – Writing Workbook)

This course will include a study of grammar, concentrating on functions of parts of speech, and clauses and phrases. Writing will include descriptive, narrative, and expository with an emphasis on persuasive essays with the inclusion of annotated remarks, anecdotes, and statistics. In writing, students will develop their own voice. The pace of instruction of the basic curriculum is accelerated, especially in grammar. Literature selections include The Diary of Anne Frank, Flowers for Algernon, and The Pearl, poetry and nonfiction essays; supplemental novels will include A Separate Peace, Our Town, and Much Ado About Nothing. Literature will emphasize author's style and purpose. Vocabulary words are also used in textual context. Literary terms and definitions are taught and applied to reading selections. Students are encouraged to interpret literature from a Christian perspective and to apply Biblical principles to their evaluation of literature. Emphasis is placed on developing higher-level critical thinking skills. A research paper is required and MLA format is taught. Eighth graders must pass a competency-writing exam; therefore, concentrated effort on the five-paragraph structure is emphasized throughout the year. Book reports are also required including a comparative report on classic novels. Students spend additional time creating projects using technology and will be publishing a book through Student Tales. Students will participate in a writing festival as well as contributing to a writing anthology. The emphasis in the class is on inquiry and design.

**ENGLISH 8** – (Grammar and Composition 8, A Beka; Prentice Hall Literature; Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop 2002; Taking Writing by the Hand – Writing Workbook)

This course will include a study of grammar, concentrating on functions of parts of speech, and clauses and phrases. Writing will include descriptive, narrative, and expository with an emphasis on persuasive essays with the inclusion of annotated remarks, anecdotes, and statistics. Literature selections include The Diary of Anne Frank, Flowers for Algernon, The Pearl, poetry, and nonfiction essays; supplemental novels will include The Old Man and the Sea and Treasure Island. Vocabulary words are also used in textual context. Literary terms and definitions are taught and applied to reading selections. Students are encouraged to interpret literature from a Christian perspective and to apply Biblical principles to their evaluation of literature. A research paper is required and MLA format is taught. Eighth graders must pass a competency writing exam; therefore, concentrated effort on the five-paragraph structure is emphasized throughout the year. Book reports are also required including a comparative report on classic novels.

**BIOLOGY** – (Biology:Prentice Hall 2007)

This honors course encompasses basic biochemistry, cell physiology, biotechnology, genetics, reproduction, origins of life, anatomy, taxonomy, and botany. Students follow a comprehensive laboratory program, including numerous dissections.

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8** – (Physical Science, Holt Science and Technology, CA Edition)

In Physical Science students will embark on an exciting year exploring God's creation as inquisitive and investigative scientists. Class investigations will include laboratory experimentation, group investigations, formal lab reports, technology enrichment, and an interdisciplinary approach to science. Students will participate in a national on-line Science Fair called "e-cybermission." Students will be studying the realm of Physical Science. They will survey the areas of chemistry and physics using the Scientific Method.

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