

OUR LADY OF PEACE SEVENTH GRADE CURRICULUM

Religion

Our seventh grade religion program focuses on spiritual formation. Through reciting daily prayer, planning, and assisting in liturgy and other forms of worship, engaging in dialogue with our priests and deacons, and participating in various service projects, students build a strong foundation in their faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in religion classes, but throughout the entire curricula. In seventh grade, focus is on:

- The life of Jesus and His impact on our lives and faith
- The Holy Trinity and how God is revealed to us
- The Church as a community of faith

Mathematics

Seventh grade students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills through the implementation of Common Core Standards. Our students will:

- Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems
- Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers
- Use properties of operations to generate equivalent equations
- Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations
- Draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them
- Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume
- Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population
- Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations
- Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models

Language Arts

Our Language Arts Program includes vocabulary, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of proper English grammar. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired are applied and reinforced in all content areas.

Reading/Literature

A diverse selection of fiction and nonfiction will be used to enhance student development of higher levels of comprehension and critical thinking. Following the Common Core State Standards, skills will develop and improve as students are presented with the following focus:

- Making inferences using textual evidence as support
- Identifying the theme or central idea of text and how it develops
- Analyzing how plot, characterization, setting, point of view, and conflict interact
- Identifying the purpose and effect of various forms of figurative language
- Applying word analysis and vocabulary skills
- Analyzing the structure, style, and purpose
- Analyzing character conflict and how the author develops the characters' view point

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Writing

Our students use writing to convey meaning, applying classroom instruction in grammar, spelling, mechanics, and process. Students will:

- Write in multiple forms including persuasive, expository, and narrative essays
- Write critical responses for about a text
- Write well-developed essays appropriate for the purpose
- Use the writing process including pre-writing, revising, and editing
- Use research to support essays when necessary
- Properly evaluate and cite sources

Speaking/Listening

Students will listen for understanding, follow directions, and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions. Students will:

- Participate in small and large group discussion
- Analyze and evaluate the speaker's main ideas, purpose, and argument
- Express ideas clearly using appropriate presentation skills
- Develop skills for successful collaboration

Science

OLP students in seventh grade use inquiry skills, hands-on experiences, discussions, and technology to understand the concepts of Earth and Life Sciences. The Prentice Hall Science *Explorer* textbook series is used. This series is research based to promote inquiry and application skills necessary in all sciences and integrates math, reading, and technology into the curriculum. Students will follow Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

- Identify and determine how cellular life processes are accomplished
- Describe the role of DNA in genetics and apply the principles of genetics to human inheritance
- Interpret data from graphs and tables
- Discuss the current policies and ethics related to science and technology
- Examine how the body is a system of interacting systems composed of cells
- Describe how factors influence growth and reproduction of organisms

Social Studies

The social studies curriculum 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 text explores themes that focus on:

- Exploration through 1877
- Economic systems
- Global issues
- Political system and Catholic teachings

Technology

Our Lady of Peace seventh grade students each have their own, school-provided Chromebook.